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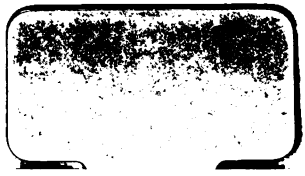


MONTHLY NOTES

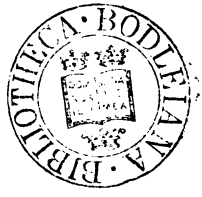
OF THE

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

OF THE

UNITED KINGDOM.

VOL. 2.



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1881.

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Vol. 2. No. 1.] [*January* 15, 1881.

BIBLIOTHECA · BODLEIANA

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

At the meeting on Friday, February 4, 1881, a paper will be read by Mr. W. H. Overall, Librarian to the Corporation of London, entitled "Notes on Broadsides and Proclamations."

JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING.

The third Monthly Meeting of the fourth year of the Association was held at the London Institution on Friday, January 7, 1881, at 8 p.m., Mr. W. H. Overall in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. S. Sanders was elected a member of the Association.

The following gentlemen were proposed for election, and will be balloted for at the next meeting. By Mr. C. E. Scarse, Local Secretary for Birmingham:—Mr. J. H. Chamberlain, Dr. Schwarz, Mr. J. Weir-Crosier, Mr. C. J. B. Duchemin, Dr. R. J. Drury, Mr. T. E. Pemberton, Mr. J. Suffield, Mr. J. P. Porter, Dr. J. Hickinbotham, Mr. F. Talbot, and Mr. C. Linnell. By Mr. T. W. Shore, Local Secretary for Southampton:—Mr. H. M. Gilbert.

The following gentlemen engaged in library administration were reported by Mr. Scarse as having joined the Association:—Alderman R. Chamberlain, Mayor of Birmingham; Mr. J. T. Bunce, Birmingham; Mr. W. Bragge, Birmingham; Dr. J. A. Langford, Birmingham; Mr. E. W. Badger, Birmingham; Dr. B. Foster, Birmingham; Mr. H. S. Pearson, Birmingham; Mr. C. J. Woodward, Midland Institute, Birmingham; Mr. J. C. Woodhill, Birmingham; Rev. F. Wagstaff, Librarian, Wednesbury; Mr. G. Wakeling, Sub-Librarian, Birmingham Free Libraries; Mr. W. H. Smith, Librarian, Free Library, Constitution Hill, Birmingham; Mr. G. Harris, Librarian, Free Library, Deritend, Birmingham; Mr. F. S. Herne, Birmingham Library; and Mr. T. G. Johnson, Librarian, Medical Institute, Birmingham.

The Chairman then called on Mr. W. R. DOUTHWAITE, Librarian of Gray's Inn, to read his paper entitled

NOTES ON THE GRAY'S INN LIBRARY.

Mr. DOUTHWAITE said: The origin of those singular institutions known as the Four Inns of Court is veiled in considerable obscurity. Although the Society of GRAY'S INN is not now the most conspicuous among them, yet it was at one time by far the most popular and the best attended of all, and was the chosen Inn of the Bacons, the Burghleys, and other distinguished lawyers and statesmen in 'the golden days of Great Elizabeth.' Its earlier history cannot now be recovered from the wreck of time, though it is certain that it existed as an Inn of Court as early as the reign of Edward III. Unfortunately, a great portion of its records have perished. There may exist, indeed, amongst family papers and unpublished manuscripts much that would throw light both on its general history and on the origin and progress of its collection of books, and if these few notes should lead to the discovery of further information, I shall be glad that this opportunity has been afforded me.

The Library of Gray's Inn is not likely to be as old as the Inn itself; nor, in fact, can the Library of any one of the Inns of Court be traced further back than the very end of the fifteenth century. Indeed, the extent of legal literature in those days was too limited to make large collections necessary or possible. Even when Coke wrote in the seventeenth century, he only counted up fifteen books or treatises, and as many volumes of reports, in addition to the statutes; or as it was expressed by Fuller a good deal later:—"I can but admire at the comparative paucity of the books of our Common Law, in proportion to those written of the Civil and Canon Law. Oh, how *corpulent* are the *corpuses* of both those Lawes! besides, their *shadows* are far bigger than their *bodies*; their *glosses* larger than their *text*. Insomuch, that one may bury two thousand pounds and upwards, in the purchase, and yet hardly compasse a moity of them; whereas all the Writers of the Common Law (except they be much multiplyed very lately), with all the year books belonging thereunto, may be bought for three-score pounds or thereabouts."*

In the manuscripts of William Oldys is a statement that the Library of the Inn was "first founded by the Lord Verulam."†

But Bacon only became a member of the Inn in 1576, while we find in the existing records of the Society mention of the Library as far back as 1568; and several Orders, from the year 1571 and onwards, speak of candidates for the degree of utter-barrister having to perform exercises at the "skreen of the Library." Moreover, the will of Robert Chaloner, dated 7th July, 1555, shows that there was even then a Library. Chaloner had been a Reader of the Society in 1521. An extract from his will is given in the "Register of the Guild of Corpus Christi in the city of York,"

* "Worthies," ed. Nichols, 1811, i. 21.

† *See* N. & Q. 2 s. xi. 401 (comp. 381); but *see* Gent. Mag., vol. 86, part ii. 213.

published by the Surtees Society in 1872 (p. 206). It is, perhaps, sufficiently interesting to give in full:—

"I will that all my bookes of lawe, as well those whiche ar at Yorke, as at my house, also all those whiche be at Loudon, yf theie can be conveied, hadde or caryed by any meanes to Grauisin, to my cosin Robt. Nowell, and then xls. in moneye to be delyvered unto the said Robert Nowell, to th' entent that he maie by cheines therwth. and fasten so manye of them in the Librarye at Grauisin as he shall think convenyente, and all the residue whiche are not necessarye for the said librarye my said cosin Nowell to take or gyve at his pleasure. To the Commoners of Grauisin xxs. for suche wronge as I did to the House when I contynued there."

These are believed to be the earliest references to the Library extant; but, scanty though they be, they are sufficient to prove the foundation of the Library prior to the time of Bacon.

During the first half of the seventeenth century a good many donations of books appear to have been made to the Library, amongst which are copies of Bacon's works, presented by Francis and Nathaniel Bacon. That some considerable use, and probably some abuse, of this collection was made, may be inferred from the fact that in 1645 two of the Masters of the Bench were desired to make inquiry "as to what books had been delivered out of the Library, and by whom and to whom." Possibly as a result of this inquiry a Library-keeper was shortly afterwards appointed at an annual salary of £3 6*s.* 8*d.*, and he was directed to procure a "fresh lock and key for the Library."

In 1669 the first catalogue of the books was made, partly because "divers books" in the Library had been "embezzled," partly because "divers others were forthwith to be brought in by Mr. Raworth," a member of the Society. This gentleman appears to have been called upon in his turn to perform the office of Reader, an office which, besides the more obvious functions, entailed great expense upon its holder in the way of entertainments. To escape these obligations, he had offered to pay £200 into the Treasury of the Society, and the Society determined to spend one moiety of this sum in the purchase of books. Accordingly about one hundred volumes, consisting principally of law books, were added to the Library. In 1674 Simon Segar, a grandson of Sir William Segar, King-at-Arms, was appointed "second butler and Library-keeper." This Simon Segar was the compiler of the well-known manuscript, No. 1912 in the Harleian collection. How or when this manuscript escaped from the custody of the Society is entirely unknown. It appears, at all events, to have shared the fate which had overtaken so many of the books in the Library. It may be some consolation to know, however, that this manuscript is now at least safe in the jealous custody of the British Museum. In 1689 the Treasurer and two Benchers were desired to make a fresh catalogue, which is still extant. From it we learn that the Library then contained about 320 volumes, of which only about one-third appear to have consisted of law books.

It was not indeed until long after this that the collection attained such dimensions as to require special accommodation. In 1737 it

became necessary, however, to build a library in Holborn Court, now South Square. It occupied the site of the present library buildings, which were erected in 1841. They consist of three handsome and comfortable rooms, one of which is appropriated for the use of the Masters of the Bench. The shelf accommodation recently became inadequate, and, in consequence, a set of chambers was adapted to receive some portion of the books, and to be used when the Library proper is closed.

In 1847 attention was directed to the state of the Library, and the result was that, in the same year, one of the Masters of the Bench was appointed Master of the Library, and this arrangement has been since continued. Since that time very much has been done for the Library, especially under the auspices of the two last Masters, Mr. W. M. Best and Mr. J. A. Russell, Q.C., who has been re-appointed year by year since his first election in 1868. The Catalogue was printed for the first time in 1872, under the direction of Master Russell, and two supplements have since been printed.

The Library at present consists of about 13,000 volumes. Of these, a not inconsiderable portion belong to historical and general literature. But the main character of the collection is, of course, determined by the purpose for which it exists—as a practical Law Library. Though it may not be so rich in American and Foreign Law as the Libraries of the other Inns of Court, it has a complete collection of the English Reports, and the latest Text-Books. For its special and primary object, therefore, the Library of Gray's Inn is relatively as well provided with books as the other Inns. The difference in the several Libraries is in the extent of their possessions in general literature.

Instead of dwelling upon the character of a collection so special in its nature, attention may be drawn to one or two practical features in the management of the Library. The management may be regarded in some measure as exceptional:—

(1.) The purchase of books is entrusted generally to the Master of the Library, and not to a Committee. One result of this arrangement is that new books, and new editions of text-books, are almost immediately on publication added to the Library. If the selection had to be made by a Committee meeting at comparatively distant intervals this would be impossible.

(2.) The Library is practically open all the year round, for during the month of September, when the Library proper is closed, the chambers, previously mentioned, are open for the convenience of members.

(3.) Rules have been framed, permitting members to take books from the Library, on the order of a Bencher for a limited period, to be specified in each case by the Librarian on the face of the order; and in fixing the period, due regard is always had to the nature of the book, and the convenience of other members of the Society.

The printed Catalogue is made use of in the preparation of the

current Catalogue, in the simple and convenient method adopted by Mr. B. R. Wheatley, at the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society. The Catalogue is cut up and pasted neatly into a larger volume, the entries at first occupying only the left-hand column of a page. The subsequent additions are all uniformly printed on slips, and are then separated and properly distributed. The Catalogue is thus always complete up to date, and is kept on what I think the neatest and clearest possible plan.

Finally, to speak of the notabilities and curiosities of the Library, the collection of ancient manuscripts, although small, is described by Mr. Horwood as "valuable." It consists of twenty-four manuscripts, the greater number of which are of monkish and mediæval literature; one notable exception is a manuscript of Bracton's—"*De Legibus et Consuetudinibus Angliæ.*" Nothing is known as to how or when these manuscripts came into the possession of the Society, except in the case of Bracton, which was presented to the Library by John Godbold, Serjeant-at-Law, in 1636.

As the Library is not rich in manuscripts, so too it has few bibliographical rarities. Considering, however, not only their own intrinsic interest, but their special connexion with the Inn, I may be excused for devoting a few words in conclusion to two or three of these.

First, I may refer to a book written by a member of Gray's Inn, and which has recently been brought under your notice as one of the books that Mr. Walford "never expected to see."

This is "The Lawiers Logike, exemplifying the præcepts of Logike by the practise of the Common Lawe, by Abraham Fraunce," 1588, 4to. The Gray's Inn Library possesses a copy, and I am informed that there are three copies at the British Museum. Though the book, therefore, is not quite so scarce as Mr. Walford supposed, it is not common, and is sufficiently interesting to deserve a few words on its own account. Its author was no inconsiderable figure amongst the men of letters of the age of Elizabeth. He was a protégé of Sir Philip Sidney, and an intimate friend of Edmund Spenser, and appears to have been equally devoted to Law and Literature. He had, while at college, prepared a treatise on Logic, which he had submitted to his patron, Sir Philip Sidney. This he read over, he says, "thrice while at Cambridge," and "thrice at Gray's Inn." Here he had very diligently applied himself to the study of Law; he collected examples to illustrate the rules and precepts of Logic from the law books, in addition to those he had previously employed from his friend Spenser's "Shepherd's Kalendar."

"I thought good" (in his own words) "to make tryall, whether my eight yeares labour at Cambridge, would anything profit mee at an Inne of Court, wheather Law were without Logike, or Logike not able to helpe a lawyer. Which when I proved, I then perceaved, the practise of Law to bee the use of Logike, and the methode of Logike to lighten the Lawe. So that after application

of Logike to Lawe and examination of Law by Logike, I made playne the precepts of the one by the practise of the other, and called my booke, The Lawyers Logike; not as though Logike were tyed onely unto Lawe, but for that our Lawe is most fit to expresse the precepts of Logike. Yet, because many love Logike, that never learne Lawe, I have reteyned those ould examples of the new *Shepheards Kalender*, which I first gathered, and thereunto added thease also out of *our Law Bookes*, which I lately collected."

The other two books I should like to mention are of interest as springing out of the ancient customs of masking and revelling which were wont to diversify and relieve the severer study of the law. They are both, moreover, connected with the name of the illustrious Bacon.

The first of them which I will describe, though not the first in point of date, is "The *Maske of Flowers*, presented by the Gentlemen of *Graies Inne*, at the Court of White-hall, in the Banquetting House, upon Twelfe Night, 1613. Being the last of the Solemnities and Magnificences, which were performed at the Marriage of the Right Honourable the Earle of Somerset and the Lady Francis, daughter of the Earle of Suffolke, Lord Chamberlaine. *London. Printed by N. O. for Robert Wilson, and are to be sold at his shop at Graies Inne new Gate* 1614." It is a small quarto tract of seventeen leaves, signatures D and E consisting of music. It is dedicated by three persons, who sign the epistles with their initials, I. G., W. D., T. B., and who may have been either authors of the composition or managers of the masque, "To the Verie Honorable Knight Sir Francis Bacon, his Majesties Attorney generall." This masque is said to have been got up at the express desire of Bacon, and the compliment appears to have been well received by "his Maiestie."

The "Device of the Maske" is to this effect. The Sun, willing to honour the marriage, orders the two Seasons, Winter and Spring, to present them with sports. Those of Winter are to be Christmas or Carnival Sports, while the Spring was specially directed that "whereas of ancient time certaine beautifull youths had bin transformed from Men to Flowers, and had so continued till this time, that now they should be returned againe into Men, and present themselves in Maske at the same Marriage." The composition does not possess any great literary merit, though the show was probably brave enough according to the taste of that age. It may be interesting to remark that the first masque of which we have any specific account was, according to Hall, played at Gray's Inn, in the eighteenth year of Henry VIII., and was written by a reverend Serjeant-at-Law.

Gay as the maskings must have been, the fun of the revels must have been still more fast and furious, if we may judge from the description contained in the "*Gesta Grayorum*" of the state of things which began in Gray's Inn on the 20th of December, 1594, and only ended at the following Shrovetide. The Inn was turned

into the semblance of a court and kingdom. A Prince, entitled the Prince of Purpoole was elected, who had a Privy Council, with all officers of state, together with a guard of honour. A solemn invitation was sent to the most flourishing state of the *Templarians* to send an ambassador, which was done, and a great entertainment was proposed in his honour; an order of knighthood was also established. The Prince and his retinue made a progress from his court of *Graya* to dine with the Lord Mayor, "the streets being thronged and filled with people, to see the gentlemen as they passed by; who thought there had been some great prince, in very deed, passing through the city." The Prince also went to Blackwall, whence he was feigned to depart for Russia to assist in the conquest of the *Negarian Tartars*. On his supposed return out of Russia, her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, invited him to visit her at her palace at Greenwich, and when he reached the Tower, he was by "Her Majesty's Commandment welcomed with a volley of great ordnance." Finally, at Shrovetide, they visited the Queen.

During this mimic reign, the Prince held a solemn Privy Council at which six councillors delivered speeches: "(1) In favour of the Exercise of War. (2) The Study of Philosophy. (3) Eternizement and Fame by Buildings and Foundations. (4) Absoluteness of State and Treasure. (5) Vertue and a Gracious Government. (6) Pass-times and Sports." The important suggestion has been made by Mr. Spedding* that these speeches were written by Lord Bacon himself. According to Mr. Spedding, "that the speeches of the six councillors were written by him, and by him alone, no one who is at all familiar with his style either of thought or expression will for a moment doubt. They carry his signature in every sentence."

The account of these proceedings was printed in 1688, under the title of "*Gesta Grayorum;* or, The History of the High and mighty Prince, *Henry*, Prince of *Purpoole*, Arch-Duke of *Stapulia* and *Bernarda*, Duke of *High* and *Nether Holborn*, Marquis of *St. Giles* and *Tottenham*, Count Palatine of *Bloomsbury* and *Clerkenwell*, Great Lord of the Cantons of *Islington*, *Kentish-Town*, *Paddington* and *Knights-bridge*, Knight of the most Heroical Order of the *Helmet*, and Sovereign of the *Same;* who Reigned and Died, A.D. 1594."

I cannot conclude without thanking Mr. Thomas for the valuable help he has afforded me, and I am glad that the Master of the Library has authorised me to announce that he proposes to send a subscription to the Library Association on behalf of the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn.

After a discussion upon the subject of the paper, in which the Chairman and Messrs. Tedder, Conybeare, Brace, Frost, and Thomas took part, a unanimous vote of thanks was given to Mr. Douthwaite.

* Bacon's Life and Letters, i. 342.

THE NEW PUBLIC LIBRARIES BILL (ENGLAND).

THIS Bill is moved by Sir John Lubbock (who gave notice of it on the first day of session), and seconded by Lord George Hamilton. The Bill is still in the hands of the parliamentary draftsmen. Meanwhile, it may be said that the Bill consolidates the four English Acts, that it deals with all the points stated on pp. 20–31 of the Association's last volume, with the exception of sections 61 and 71 on p. 26, and that it allows the sale or exchange of buildings and other property (including, of course, duplicates) as well as of land, and the delivery of lectures on literary, scientific, and artistic subjects. The power of disestablishing a library which has failed is to be vested only in the Education-department, which can always refuse it, and can never exercise it unless requested by two-thirds of those voting at a special meeting of the local governing body, which in turn cannot entertain the question till the library has been opened five years, nor in less than three years after it was last entertained.

LIBRARY NOTES.

GUILDHALL LIBRARY.—During the year 1880 this library was open on 272 days, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and on 22 days from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Total, 294 days. The number of readers up to 5 p.m. was 117,440; from 5 to 9 p.m., 35,150; total, 152,590. The library is now open every week-day from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

SOCIETY OF TELEGRAPH ENGINEERS.—The Society's library is now open to members of all scientific bodies, and (on application to the librarian) to the public generally. It is open daily from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., except on Thursdays and Saturdays, when it closes at 2 p.m.

HUDDERSFIELD.—On the 10th inst., the Mayor of Huddersfield (Alderman Denham) officially declared at the Town Hall the result of the polling, which took place on the previous Saturday, as to the adoption of the Public Libraries Act, 1855. Out of a roll of over 15,000 persons, only 3,689 voted—namely, 1,264 for the resolution and 2,425 against.

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.—Mr. W. E. Foster, of Randolph, Mass., U S.A., Secretary of the Programme Committee, has written to Mr. Thomas, at the request of Professor Winsor, President of the American Library Association, to announce the occurrnece of their next meeting on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, February 9, 10, and 11, 1881. The sessions will be held at Washington; an extra session, however, has been arranged for at Baltimore. A cordial invitation is given to all members of our Association to be present and take part in the proceedings. A desire is also expressed that if any of our members should be travelling in the United States at the time he may be requested to represent this Association by his presence.

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MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

AT the Meeting on Friday, March 4, 1881, a paper will be read by Mr. W. BRACE: "F. A. Ebert's view of a Librarian's Education."

FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING.

THE fourth Monthly Meeting of the fourth year of the Association was held at the London Institution on Friday, February 4, 1881, at 8 p.m., Mr. CORNELIUS WALFORD in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the following gentlemen who were proposed at the last meeting were unanimously elected:—Mr. J. H. Chamberlain, Mr. J. Weir-Crosier, Dr. R. J. Drury, Mr. C. J. B. Duchemin, Mr. H. M. Gilbert, Dr. J. Hickinbotham, Mr. C. Linnell, Mr. T. E. Pemberton, Mr. J. P. Porter, Dr. Schwarz, Mr. J. Suffield, and Mr. F. Talbot.

The following gentlemen were proposed for election, and will be balloted for at the next meeting. By Mr. W. J. HAGGERSTON, Local Secretary for Newcastle-upon-Tyne:—Mr. H. J. Hildreth. By the Rev. S. S. LEWIS, Local Secretary for Cambridge:—Rev. J. E. B. Mayor, Professor of Latin, University of Cambridge. By Mr. C. WELCH, Secretary:—Mr. Adolf Ellissen, Finsbury.

The following gentlemen engaged in library administration were reported as having joined the Association. By Mr. W. J. HAGGERSTON:—Mr. G. Hall Elliott, Assistant Librarian, Literary and Philosophical Society, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Mr. Frank J. Burgoyne, Sub-Librarian, and Mr. Thomas Everatt, Assistant Librarian, Public Libraries, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. By Mr. F. MADAN, Joint Local Secretary for Oxford:—Mr. Henry J. Mathews, Bodleian Library.

The Chairman then called upon Mr. W. H. Overall, Librarian to the Corporation of London, to read his paper entitled

Notes on Broadsides and Proclamations.

Mr. Overall said: Proclamations are not a class of literature where we should expect to find fine writing, or ornaments of diction. No—they simply contain facts concisely put, dry unpoetical matter, with no attempt at rhetoric, and yet these documents form the backbone, if I may say so, of history. Many most valuable historical facts have been ascertained, and dates of great importance have been settled by reference to original proclamations and broadsides. If we go back to early times our estimate of their value will be greatly enhanced, because in those days travelling was both tedious and difficult, and months elapsed before some parts of the country knew what was going on in London and elsewhere. There were no daily newspapers such as we have upon our breakfast tables telling us of things which happened in America only a few hours before. They were almost entirely dependent for authentic official information upon proclamations and broadsides. These official documents were directed to the Lieutenants, Mayors, or Sheriffs, or to the Clerical authorities. In the former cases they were read at the market cross and stuck up in prominent places; in the latter, they were read to the congregations after service in the churches; doubtless the fact of their being posted up will in some measure account for so few of them being handed down to our times. In this way the people were informed of the great public movements, such as coronations, fires, plagues, riots, battles lost or won, treaties of peace, the arrival of foreign embassies, leagues made with foreign powers, &c. The early proclamations contain most valuable information concerning the manners and customs of the people, but being in MS., are difficult of access and troublesome to decipher. The earliest known proclamation in English is that issued by King Henry III., on the 18th October, 1258; its great historical, philological, and literary value is well known. It was issued just after the end of the quarrel between the king and his barons. The king had agreed to accept a council of twenty-four nobles, twelve to be chosen by himself and twelve by the barons, to meet to advise with him upon matters of state, and the proclamation was to bind every man in the kingdom, high or low, to obey the mandates of this council. The men were not only to keep the ordinances of the majority of the council, but to *swear* to keep them; no one was to make use of any land or other possessions to the detriment of these ordinances, and in order that the provisions of the proclamation might be understood by both gentle and simple, it was issued in English and Norman French, and a copy was forwarded to every county, and also to Ireland. Copies are preserved on the rolls at the Record office. This proclamation was published by Mr. A. J. Ellis, F.R.S., in the proceedings of the Philological Society in 1868, and his notes thereon are most valuable.

The next proclamation in order of date will be found in the

Records of the Corporation of London, letter book C, folio 3. It is written in Norman French, but has been translated by Mr. H. T. Riley, in the "Memorials of London," page 29. It is interesting as showing the intercourse between England and France at this date, and the feeling of the citizens towards their neighbours. "On Tuesday next after mid-lent, in the 20th year of the reign of King Edward I. (1292), the following proclamation was made (in the City of London), by precept of our Lord the King: 'Whereas certain great Lords of the Council of the King of France are about to come with a message to our Lord the King of England, in his City of London; we do command you on the King's behalf, that no one be so daring as to injure the said envoys by word or deed, or any of their people, whether rightfully or wrongfully; but well and peaceably they are to be received, and courteously answered; on pain of loss of chattels and of imprisonment forthwith, at the King's will. And if any one of such envoys, or of their people, shall injure any of you, let them come and complain to the Warden, and he will do them right." Similar proclamations were issued from time to time for some centuries later, on the occasion of foreign embassies to this country.

In the same book, folio 21, is a proclamation directed by Edward I. in 1296 to the men of the City of London, commanding them to aid the Prince Edward (the first Prince of Wales) in the defence of the southern coasts.

"Edward, by the grace of God, King of England, Lord of Ireland, and Duke of Aquitaine, to all his good people of the City of London greeting. We do pray and do charge you on the fealty which unto us you owe, and as we do especially trust in you, that unto our Son, and to the commands which he may chance shortly to give you for the safe-guard of the sea-coasts in the South, you be readily obedient, with such force as you may conveniently have, at all times that he shall let you know; and as readily obedient as you would have been to ourselves, if we had been there in our own person." From the following record of the action taken by some of the citizens it appears that they were not all inclined at first to obey this mandate.

"Be it remembered, that on the same day in that year, in presence of Ralph de Sandwich, Sir John le Bretun, then Warden of London, and the Aldermen of the City aforesaid, and others there present, and summoned at the command of our said Lord the King, John de Dowgate, Michael Pycot, Mercer, and Geoffrey de Conduit, Taverner, did gainsay and impede the provision and ordinance aforesaid, made by the said Warden and Aldermen for them to go with horses and arms to follow Sir Edward, son of our Lord the King of England, into parts of Kent; but afterwards they came into the presence of the said Warden and Aldermen, and gave consent to the ordinance and provision aforesaid, and readily agreed to go with horses and arms, according to the command of our Lord the King, in their proper persons; the same as other citizens who had been chosen thereto."

Another proclamation, issued in 1305, is worthy of notice; it is from the same book, fol. 86. It was issued by King Edward I., directing the Lord Mayor and citizens to afford protection to the strangers coming to attend the Parliament, and runs thus: "Forasmuch as *Scots* and *Strange Folks* are coming to the Parliament of our Lord the King now next ensuing, we do forbid on the King's behalf that anyone shall be so daring as to do injury by deed or word to either Natives, or Strangers, on pain of imprisonment at the King's pleasure, and that no person shall be so daring as to enhance the price of victuals by reason of the said Parliament, or to sell wine or bread, or ale against the assize; that is to say, one gallon of wine for threepence; four loaves, or two, for one penny; one gallon of ale for one penny, and one of other kind of ale for three farthings; on pain of heavy forfeiture."

Another proclamation, dated the 14th of February, 1308, informed the citizens that the coronation of Edward II. was to take place at Westminster, February 24, 1308; and it would appear that the king was not held in great favour by the citizens, probably owing to his weak regency, or his association with his licentious courtiers, or his celebrated minion, Piers Gaveston, who was the principal cause of his misfortunes. It runs thus: "In the first place, that no one shall be so daring on the day of the Coronation, as to carry sword, or knife with point, or misericorde (a short dagger), mace, or club, or any other arm, on pain of imprisonment for a year and a day. And further, the King doth command that all persons shall receive and pay honour to the French, and the other folks from abroad, who have come and shall come to the said coronation. . . . And if any man shall be found to brandish sword, misericorde, knife, mace, club, or other arm to do evil therewith, with such arm as he shall have so brandished, let him be pierced through the hand," etc.

But I must not dwell longer on this part of my subject, most interesting though it is. I must turn to printed matter, which is more accessible to historical students.

The earliest printed English broadside that I know of is one presented by the late Prince Consort to the Society of Antiquaries. It is dated 1513, and is "An indulgence granted by our Holy Father Pope Leo (X.) that nowe is to all such as shall contribute money towards the ransom of Sir John Pyllet, Knight of the Holy Sepulchre of Christ, who, coming from Jerusalem was taken prisoner by the Mauris (Moors) and Infidels, cruel ennemys unto Cristes feithe, and by them through their great torments and threatninges of dethe, was compelled either to leve his feithe or to pay unto them many millions of ducats (2,000)." This was confirmed by licence of King Henry VIII. for the said knight to collect and gather alms to pay the fine. The next is an indulgence, granted in 1518, to all such as should contribute or help with any part of their goods towards the reparation, or maintaining the service of Almighty God in the Church of Saint George the Martyr in Southwark, "as in gyvyng ony boke, belle, or lyght, or any other churchly ornaments." Another, dated 1519, is a form of an indulgence granted by John

Cavalar, Keeper or Master of the Hospital of the Blessed Mary of Bethlehem extra Portam Episcopi, commonly called Bishopsgate, and founded for the sustentation of insane persons; to all who should contribute towards the relief and support of the hospital, etc.

One class of the population was frequently the object of broadsides and proclamations, viz., *Vagabonds*, who had no home, but wandered about the country, making their whereabouts felt by their habits of appropriating what did not belong to them, and occasionally, when they could not steal, setting fire to the mansions of the wealthy by way of revenge. It is not to be wondered that the authorities now and again took them in hand. They are fully described in a broadside issued in 1572, entitled:

"Meanes devised for better execution of the Statute for reliefe of the Poore, and redressing the disorders of persons vagrant and begging in the citie of London." The act referred to passed in 1572 (14 Elizabeth, cap. 5), and was printed by John Day, who resided over Aldersgate. One of its provisions runs thus: "If a beggar be convicted as a vagabond he or shee shalbe adjudged to be grevouslye whipped and burnt through the gristle of the right eare with a hot yron of the compasse of an ynch about." A vagabond was a fellow who was a "Fencer, Bearward, Minstrel, Jugler, Pedler, Tynker, Common Player, Enterluder," etc.

Another class which necessitated the frequent issue of broadsides was that of the Cunning Men and Witches. Some of these documents describe their absurd proceedings, and their infernal cauldrons, filled with all manner of nastiness, so well summed up by Shakespeare in "Macbeth." When they fell under the rigour of the law it did not spare them; many were hanged, while others were ducked in the horseponds, or exposed in the pillory. A broadside issued in 1561 is "The unfained retraction of Fraunces Cox, which he uttered at the pillery in Chepesyde and elswhere, according to the Counsel's Commandment anno 1561. For useing certain sinistral and develysh artes."

I now turn to printed proclamations. As might be expected, there are several extremely important collections in existence. The most valuable are preserved in the British Museum, and by the kindness of the officers there I have had an opportunity to run rapidly through them. They include seven of King Henry VIII., one of King Edward VI., and a large volume of those of Queen Elizabeth, from her accession in 1558 to her death in 1603. This collection was made by Humfry Dyson, Public Notary of the City of London, who has also printed a title-page, a table of contents, and an index. It was subsequently in the possession of Narcissus Luttrell, and was eventually purchased by the authorities of the Museum. A list of these proclamations is given in the second part of the Grenville Catalogue, pages 368–373. Another valuable collection, in four volumes, was made by Edward Gwynn, and runs from 1603 to 1631. Besides these, a number of volumes containing later proclamations are also preserved in the Museum.

The proclamations issued by King Henry VIII. refer to subjects of considerable interest. For instance, the proclamation, issued in 1511, "for the exercisyng of large bowes and maintaynynge of Archery within this his realme, and also in putting downe and distroying of Crosbowes and hande Gonnes and other unlawfull Games used contrary to Lawe." On the 24th of June, 1528, a proclamation was issued setting forth that a truce had been concluded between England, France, and the Netherlands. Another, dated in the month of June, 1530, was made "for dampning of erronious bokes and heresies, and prohibiting the having of the Holy Scripture translated into the vulgar tongues of English, French, or Dutch," etc.

In 1533 Henry VIII. issued the following very curious and historical proclamation:—"Devised by the Kynges hygnes with the aduyse of his counsayle, that his subjects be warned to auoyde in some cases the daunger and penaltie of the statute of prouision and premunire. . . . . Forasmoche as the unlawful matrimonie betwene the Kynges hyghnes and the Lady Katherine princes dowager, late Wyfe of prince Arthure, by just wayes and meanes is lawfully dissolved and divorse and separation had and done betwene his sayde hyghnes and Lady Katherine. . . . . And thereupon the Kinges Majestie hath lawfully maried and taken to his Wyfe, &c., the excellent Princes Lady Anne (Boleyn) now Quene of England," etc.

In 1541, "on the 6th of May in the XXXIII. yeare of the King's reign," a proclamation was "ordeyned by the Kynges Maiestie with the advice of his honorable Counsayle for the Byble, of the largest and greatest volume, to be had in every church." It was upon the authority of this order that Cranmer's edition of the Bible, published in 1540, was supplied to many churches and chained to the reading-desk. Another curious proclamation was issued by King Henry VIII. on the 3rd of February, 1542, in the thirty-third year of his reign, concerning the eating of "white meates," and ends thus: "To observe also that fast, which God most specially requireth of them: that is to say, to renounce the world and the devil, with all their pomps and workes, and also to repress their carnal affections and the corrupt workings of their flesh according to their vowe and profession made at the font stone," etc.

On the 11th of May, the 5th of Edward VI. (1551), a proclamation was issued "For the amendment of the Coin and to admonish engrossers, Farmers, Grasiers, and Sheep Masters, Victuallers and others, and the Inhauncers of the prices of the same, and for the amendment of their gredy and insaciable doings," etc.

Queen Elizabeth issued a proclamation upon her accession to the throne: "Whereby Queen Elizabeth taketh upon her the title Queen and the government of the Kingdome of England. . . . . Because it hath pleased Almightie God by calling to his mercie out of this mortall lief to our greate grief our derest Suster of noble memorie, Mary, late Quene of England, etc., and to bestowe upon us as the onely right heyre by bludde and lawfull succession the

Crowne of the foresayed kingdomes of England, Fraunce and Ireland," etc.

The Public Record Office also possesses a large and most interesting collection, including a volume which formerly belonged to Lord Chief Justice Coke. The Bodleian Library and Queen's College Library, at Oxford, also contain a great number of these documents, some bearing the signature of Lord Burleigh.

The Society of Antiquaries possess a large collection of proclamations, among them being a copy of the only one issued in the name of Queen Jane, better known to us as the amiable, learned, and unfortunate Lady Jane Grey. It is dated the 10th of July, 1553, and declares her right to the succession of the Crown of England, in virtue of Letters Patents signed by the late King Edward VI., bearing date the 21st day of June in the seventh year of his reign. Mr. Lemon, in his remarks upon this proclamation, states that it is a splendid specimen of the type of Grafton: "Londini in ædibus Richardi Graftoni Reginæ a typographia excusum. Anno Domini M.D.LIII. cum privilegio ad imprimendum solum."

The Society is especially rich in those issued in the reigns of Elizabeth, James I., and Charles I. Of these Mr. Robert Lemon, a fellow of the Society, has compiled a manuscript catalogue, and it is much to be desired that the Society may one day be induced to publish it as a companion volume to his "Catalogue of Printed Broadsides," published by the Society in 1866. We have in the Library of the Corporation at Guildhall a valuable series of Elizabeth, James I., Charles I., the Commonwealth, Charles II., and later. One might fairly say that a plethora of wealth in this class of literature has been preserved to us in the various collections that I have mentioned, besides those preserved in many other collections to which there is no opportunity of referring in this paper. It is therefore much to be regretted that its general use and value for historical and other purposes should be so limited for want of a general index of subjects and chronological arrangement. The proclamations at the Museum are entered in the general catalogue under the different reigns and in chronological order.

Apart from the interest of the subject itself, I have been induced to address these remarks to this Association in order to direct the attention of librarians to the historical importance of this class of literature, and to the imperative need by literary labourers of a thoroughly good analytical subject index, chronologically arranged, of all known collections, with references to the places where the originals are preserved. By this means the historian would be able to see at a glance where his materials could be obtained. I do not know whether such a task would be thought within the scope of the Index Society, but it could hardly be undertaken by an individual; and I have no hesitation in saying that it would be invaluable when completed.

I purpose, as far as time will permit, to bring before you a few examples of both broadsides and proclamations, and the form of index required to make them accessible to all.

Among the examples given by Mr. OVERALL were the following:—

1559, May 16. A proclamation commanding that no "Playes or Interludes" should be played, but such as had been licensed by the justices.

1559, August 23. A proclamation forbidding the "selling of Shippes or Vessells out of the Kingdom of England," on account of the great scarcity of timber.

1560, January 6. A proclamation granting permission to Frenchmen to have "intercourse with their Ships into the Ports of this realm."

1560, Sept. 19. A proclamation "Against breaking or defacing of Monuments of Antiquitie, set up in Churches, or Public Places for Memorials and not for Superstition."

1560, Nov. 2. A proclamation settling the value of certain Foreign Coins of Gold, called Pistolets, which were formerly current at 5*s.* 10*d.*, and directing that they shall only be received now at that value. (The coins are engraved on the proclamation.)

1564. A proclamation for the conservation and keeping of the Queen's swans and cygnets, with directions to all persons having any Swans how and when they shall be marked, and the fines for disobedience, and directing the marking to be done "in the presence of Her Majesty's Master of the Queen's Game of Swans or his deputy."

1566, June 29. "Ordinances decreed for reformation of divers disorders in printing and uttering of Bookes."

1567. A proclamation describing a "very rich Lotterie generall without any blanckes, contayning a great number of good prizes as wel of redy money as of plate and certaine sorts of merchandizes divided into 4 hundred thousand prizes and no more. The proceeds to be devoted to the repair of the Havens of this realm."

1568. A broadside "Upon the Murder of Lord Darnley, 10th Feb. 1567, some time King of Scotland, Grand Nephew of Henry VIII.

My hand and pen procede to write,
A wofull tale to tell;
My pen it cannot half indite,
Alas! how it befell.

Wo worth the man that Treason first
This thing did take in hande,
Of all men's mouths they may be curst
Throughout this English land."

1593. A proclamation directing how Bartholomew Fair should be kept, on account of the Plague raging in London, and in case the infection be carried into the country by persons bringing their wares for sale.

1611–12. A broadside notice that a fleet of ships, under the command of Sir Thomas Gates and Sir Thomas Dale, would soon be ready to sail for Virginia, and that good artificers and others must repair to the house of Sir Thomas Smyth, in Philpot Lane, before the end of January.

1614. "The humble petition of many thousands of Carpenters, Bricklayers, Smithes, Plaisterers, Glaziers, Painters, and other handicraftes men, to the High Court of Parliament," complaining of the manner of building and repairing houses, and seeking redress. The matter was referred to Inigo Jones, the celebrated architect.

1625. "A direction concerning the Plague or Pestilence for Poor or Rich." It sets out the virtues of a "certaine Elixar, or a water for them that are infected, besides several other things necessary in this sickness, as Cordials, Juleps, Cooling Waters, Conserves, Oyles, Oyntments, Smelling or Smooking Balls, as Pomanders, Quilts, Poultresses, Balsames, &c. The Professor hereof dwelleth in Great Wood Street, at the signe of the Merre Mayde, neere the corner of Mayden Lane."

1642. "A health to all Vintners, Beer-brewers, and Ale-conners, Tapsters, Bezlors, Carrowsers, and Wine-bibbers, Bench-whistlers, Lick-wimbles, Downright Drunkards, Pety Drunkards, Bacchus-Boyes, Roaring Boyes, Bachanalians, Taverne Antients, Captaine Swaggerers, Fox-catchers, Pot and Half-pot men, Short winded Glasse men, and all other good fellowes of our Fraternitie whom these presents may concerne, Greeting; constituting a jury for the regulating of Drinking and Drunkards."

1655, Oct. 1. A proclamation by the Lord Protector giving encouragement to all persons who shall desire to transplant themselves to Jamaica.

1660, Aug. 13. A proclamation by Charles II. calling in and suppressing two books written by John Milton, the one intituled "Johannis Miltoni, Angli, pro Populo Anglicano Defensio," the other "The Pourtraicture of his sacred Majesty in his solitude and sufferings," and another one, "The Obstructors of Justice," written by John Goodwin.

1661, March 29. A proclamation "Prohibiting the Planting, Setting, and Sowing of Tobacco in England and Ireland, the Islands of Guernsey and Jersey."

1672, Aug. 16. A proclamation "For making currant His Majesties Farthings and Half-pence of copper and forbidding all others to be used."

1674, Sept. 18. A proclamation issued by the king, for regulating the Colours to be worn on Merchant Ships. "No Ships to be permitted to wear the Jack, which is for distinction appointed for His Majesties Ships."

1686, April 30. James II. issued a proclamation for the better execution of the office of making and registering "Policys of Assurances in London, upon Ships, Merchandizes, or any other things, Goods, &c."

1687. A proclamation of the same king restraining the number and abuses of Hackney Coaches "in and about the Citys of London and Westminster," and directing them to apply for a License.

PROPOSED SUBJECT INDEX OF BROADSIDES AND PROCLAMATIONS.

DOCUMENT.	SUBJECT.	CONTENTS.	DATE.	REIGN.	PLACE.
P	Assurance...	Registration of policies	1686, Apr. 30	2 Jas. II.	B. M. Gen. Coll.; G. L.
P	Antiquities.	Against destruction of monuments in Churches and public places	1560, Sept. 19	2 Eliz.	B. M. Gwynn Coll.
P	Books	To suppress disorders in printing	1566, June 29	8 Eliz.	Antiq. ; Bod.
P	,,	Milton's works (named), suppressed	1660, Aug. 13	12 Chas. II.	B. M. Gwynn Coll.
P	,,	Schismatic and seditious, suppressed	1585	25 Eliz.	B. M. Dyson's Coll.; G. L.; Bod.
B	Building ...	Complaints as to the manner of	1614	11 Jas. I.	B. M. Gen. Coll.
P	Coins	Price of Pistolets fixed at 5*s.* 10*d.*	1560, Nov. 2	2 Eliz.	Bod. ; Antiq.
P	,,	Copper halfpence and farthings made current	1672, Aug. 16	24 Chas. II.	
B	Darnley ...	Verses on the murder of	1568	10 Eliz.	B. M. Dyson's Coll.
B	Frenchmen	Permitted to have intercourse with their ships into this realm	1560, Jan. 6	2 Eliz.	B. M. Gen. Coll. ; G. L. ; Bod.
P	Lottery.....	A general one fixed and the prizes announced	1567	9 Eliz.	Antiq. ; Bod.
B	Plague	Cures for	1625, Aug. 1	1 Chas. I.	B. M. Dyson's Coll.; Bod.; G. L.
P	Plays	None permitted unless licensed	1559, May 16	1 Eliz.	B. M. Gwynn's Coll.
P	Printers ...	Unskilled, to be removed	1641, June 23	17 Chas. I.	G. L. ; Bod.
P	Ships	None to be sold out of the kingdom	1559, Aug. 23	2 Eliz.	G. L. ; Bod. ; Antiq.
P	Swans	Marking those of the Queen and others having the right to keep them	1564, May 1	6 Eliz.	Bod. ; Antiq.
P	Tobacco ...	Planting, forbidden	1661, Mar. 29	13 Chas. II.	B. M. Dyson.
B	Vintners ...	Health to, describing drunkards	1642	18 Chas. I.	B. M. Gen.
B	Virginia ...	Colonization of	1611–12	10 Jas. I.	B. M. Gwynn's Coll.

ABBREVIATIONS.—P., Proclamation ; B., Broadside ; B. M. Gen. Coll., British Museum General Collection ; G. L., Guildhall Library ; Bod., Bodleian Library ; Antiq., Library of the Society of Antiquaries. The places are in part apocryphal.

DISCUSSION.—The CHAIRMAN considered these proclamations to be a very important form of literature, as many Ordinances and Acts of Parliament were made in consequence of petitions which were often recited in these documents, and were nowhere else to be found.—Mr. GARNETT said there was a printed proclamation earlier than the Gutenberg Bible; it was issued by Pope Calixtus II., whose Pontificate extended over little more than two years, which sufficiently fixed the date. At the Record Office there was a volume of printed proclamations containing several relating to the murder of Darnley.—The CHAIRMAN mentioned that he had lately purchased the collection of Mr. Maidment, which contained several that appeared unique.—Mr. STEVENS exhibited a volume of broadsides, among which were some relating to earthenware, giving evidence of the manufacture of porcelain in England at an earlier date than that generally supposed. He was particularly interested in proclamations relating to the publishing of books, and had a large collection of proposals for publications, most of which, he believed, were never published. Walton's Polyglot was said to be the first book published by subscription, but he had proposals of a much earlier date.—Mr. WELCH observed that few libraries could afford the expense of cataloguing this class of literature in full. If such an index as that proposed were made, librarians would be able to economise labour and space by referring to it, instead of setting out all the particulars again. A table or index to the Parliamentary papers would also be very useful.—Mr. GARNETT said that as print was now introduced into the Museum catalogue, there was a probability that such a catalogue might be produced. In the Museum catalogue, broadsides were distinguished by the mark s.s., and if anyone were to go through the catalogues and take out those so marked, he would have a complete catalogue of those in the Museum.—After some further discussion of the subject of the paper, a unanimous vote of thanks was passed to Mr. OVERALL.

The SECRETARY then read a note from Mr. J. W. KNAPMAN, Librarian to the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, on

THE PROPOSED PARCEL POST.

Mr. KNAPMAN referred to a statement lately made by the Postmaster-General that negotiations had been opened with various Railway Companies with a view to the establishment of a cheap parcel rate. He illustrated the advantages of the change by reference to the case of the Library of the Pharmaceutical Society, which forwarded books to all parts of the kingdom, and paid the carriage one way in the case of country members. During the last year the average cost to the Society was about sevenpence for each book. When the book to be sent was small, or the distance very great, undoubtedly the book post was the best mode of conveyance both in respect of cost and speed, as the railway companies and other carriers, if delivering at a slightly cheaper rate, often took a very considerable time to do their work. Places out of the track of railways were also best served by the post.

A short discussion followed, and cases were mentioned in which the cost of delivery by post was much cheaper than by other modes. The German parcel post was also referred to with approval. A vote of thanks was then given to Mr. KNAPMAN for his communication.

We regret to record the death of Sir Redmond Barry, one of the founders of our association. He was born in 1813, educated at Trinity College, Dublin, and called to the Irish bar in 1838. In 1851 he became Solicitor-General of Victoria, and was appointed in 1852 a Judge of the Supreme Court. He was also Chancellor of the Melbourne University from 1853, and as President of the Public Library of Victoria, took a warm interest in library work. Sir Redmond Barry was one of the Vice-Presidents of the London Conference of Librarians in 1877, and took an active part in its proceedings.

LIBRARY NOTES.

EDINBURGH.—The question whether the City of Edinburgh should adopt the Free Libraries Act was settled in the negative on the 8th instant, by 15,708 votes against 7,619. There were 15,521 cards which were not returned.

LAMBETH PALACE LIBRARY.—This library has within the last few months been made much more accessible. Books (with due exceptions) are now lent out to the clergy and laity of the diocese of Canterbury, and to persons residing within the parish of Lambeth, the borough of Southwark, and the city and liberties of Westminster. Advantage has already been taken of this liberal scheme, and several publishers have contributed modern theological works, of which a large collection already exists from the library of the late Professor Selwyn, of Cambridge. An index to the Charters, Court-rolls, and other documents, from the time of Edward III. downwards, renders them readily accessible. Two special collections are being formed, *viz.*—1. Books, pamphlets and prints relating to Kentish history and archæology. 2. Pamphlets and papers on the monastic remains of England and Wales. Contributions to these collections will be gladly received by the Librarian, S. W. Kershaw, M.A. The Records, MSS., and early printed books are known to most scholars by their exceeding value and rarity. The library is open on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in winter, and to 5 p.m. in summer.

RICHMOND FREE LIBRARY.—This library is making progress; over 2,000 volumes have already been received as gifts, including many of considerable value. Proposals for similar institutions have been made at Kingston, Twickenham, and Wimbledon.

SALFORD.—Mr. W. E. A. Axon has been appointed an Honorary Member of the Committee of the Salford Borough Free Library.

London: TRÜBNER & CO., Ludgate Hill.
Single Numbers, Threepence each. Annual Subscription, post free, 3s. 6d.

VOL. 2. No. 3.] [*March* 15, 1881.

BIBLIOTHECA · BODLEIANA

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

AT the meeting on Friday, April 1, 1881, in addition to the paper already announced, a paper will be read by Mr. RALPH RICHARDSON, W. S., a Curator of the Signet Library, Edinburgh: "On the Rejection of the Library Acts by the Citizens of Edinburgh, on 9th February, 1881."

MARCH MONTHLY MEETING.

THE fifth Monthly Meeting of the fourth year of the Association was held at the London Institution on Friday, March 4, 1881, at 8 p.m., Mr. J. D. MULLINS, V.P., in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the following gentlemen, who were proposed at the last meeting, were unanimously elected:—Rev. Professor J. E. B. Mayor, Mr. H. J. Hildreth, and Mr. A. Ellissen.

Mr. E. A. Petherick was proposed for election by the TREASURER, and will be balloted for at the next meeting.

The following gentlemen engaged in library administration were reported as having joined the Association. By the TREASURER:—The Vice-President of the Union Society, Cambridge; Mr. G. R. Humphery, Librarian of Messrs. Braby and Company's Library; Mr. F. Pollock, Librarian of the Alpine Club. By Mr. C. E. SCARSE, Local Secretary for Birmingham:—Mr. C. H. Bayley, Honorary Secretary of the Free Library, West Bromwich; Rev. Dr. G. Deane, Member of the Committee of the Birmingham Library, and Messrs. E. R. N. Mathews and S. M. Murray, Assistant Librarians, Birmingham Free Library.

The Council considering it desirable that the meeting should be informed of the progress of the Free Libraries Bill and of the action taken by them in pursuance of the resolution of the annual meeting at Manchester, it was resolved, on the proposition of Mr. C. WELCH, Secretary, seconded by Mr. W. BRACE, to postpone the reading of the paper and proceed to the discussion of the Bill.

A statement of the proceedings with respect to the Bill was then made, the Bill was gone through and objections to various clauses raised and discussed, but it was not thought necessary to come to a decision upon them at that meeting.

THE FREE LIBRARIES BILL.

THE Council think it desirable to lay before the Association a statement of their proceedings in relation to this Bill, in order that their position with regard to the question of the consolidation and amendment of the Free Libraries Acts may be clearly understood. It will be necessary to recall the earlier history of this question in connexion with our Association.

The history begins with Mr. Nicholson's and Mr. Campbell's papers, read at our Manchester meeting in 1879. Mr. Nicholson's attention had been specially directed to the subject by his work as Secretary of the Metropolitan Free Library Association. In his paper he pointed out certain defects in the existing Acts, and made various suggestions for their consolidation and amendment. Those suggestions, as well as Mr. Campbell's, appear to have been generally accepted by the members assembled at Manchester, as appears not merely from the discussion as reported in our "Transactions" for that year, but also from the resolution carried on the proposition of Messrs. Campbell and Mullins. It was resolved:

"That it should be a recommendation to the Council to endeavour to influence Parliament in favour of such an amendment of the law relating to public libraries as would remedy the defects which had been pointed out at this annual meeting, and to cause a Bill for that purpose to be introduced before Parliament."

The mandate given to the Council was thus sufficiently explicit. They were to cause a Bill to be introduced to "remedy the defects *which had been pointed out at this general meeting.*"

At the meeting of the Council on the 10th October, 1879, this resolution was reported, and it was resolved:

"That the Council of the Metropolitan Free Libraries Association should be communicated with, in order to obtain an exchange of views, with the object of joint action in the matter."

The result of this communication was to show that the Metropolitan Free Libraries Association contemplated the introduction of such a Bill, and that it was about to be drafted. Mr. Nicholson reported progress as to the steps taken by the Metropolitan Free Libraries Association at our Council Meetings of 7th May and 4th June, 1880. As soon as the draft of the Bill was complete it was placed in the hands of the President of the Local Government Board, that he might consider whether he would take it up, and it remained with him for some months. As no copy of it had been made, the Bill could not be submitted to the Council for their consideration until it was returned.

Meanwhile, in their report to the Association at the Edinburgh Meeting, the Council announced that "A Bill was drafted in the early summer by Messrs. Nicholson and Tedder, and, though the course of public business has prevented its introduction during the past session, the Council have reason to believe that next session it will be brought in without fail." (*Monthly Notes*, vol. i., p. 69).

At a meeting of the Council on the 12th November, 1880, Mr. Nicholson announced that he was ready to submit the draft Bill for the approval of the Council, before it was sent to the parliamentary draftsman. On the 26th November, the Bill was accordingly read and provisionally approved, with the exception of one clause. Upon this the opinion of all the members of the Council was ordered to be taken in writing, with the result that the obnoxious clause was dropped. On the 3rd December, some further points were considered and decided, after which the Council ordered that their approval of the draft Bill should be communicated to the Metropolitan Free Libraries Association. On the 17th December, the Secretaries were instructed to co-operate with the Officers of the Metropolitan Free Libraries Association, to procure petitions in favour of the Bill.

After the Council of the 26th November, the Bill was understood to be in the hands of the parliamentary draftsman, and again, therefore, inaccessible. On the 7th January, letters were read asking for further information as to the provisions of the Bill, and it was agreed that a short outline of the Bill should be inserted in *Monthly Notes* for January. To this, objection was made on behalf of the Metropolitan Free Libraries Association, on the ground that such a specification would require reference to the clauses of the Bill, which could not be given till it was received from the draftsman. The Metropolitan Association, however, pledged itself to furnish such a specification at the earliest possible moment. This specification was prepared by the Metropolitan Free Libraries Association, but was not received in time for insertion in our last number. It appears, however, in this number (see page 25).

The Bill was introduced by Sir John Lubbock, and read a first time on the 7th January, and we were informed by Mr. Nicholson that in the opinion of Sir John Lubbock every day's delay diminished the chances of the Bill passing through all its stages this Session. Thus we were reluctantly compelled to abandon the hope of submitting its provisions to our members before it went to the House of Commons. At the same time, it was always intended that their opinions should be asked, and that full weight should be accorded to them in the final form to be given to the proposals made to Parliament.

It will thus be seen that the present Bill is, strictly speaking, the Bill of the Metropolitan Free Libraries Association, who have been defraying, and are now defraying, the expenses of its preparation. The Council of the Library Association have indeed given it their approval, because it appeared to them to carry the points suggested at the Manchester meeting already referred to. But they have never intended to do more than signify their general approval of the measures, reserving their right to suggest such additions and improvements as may occur either to themselves or to other members of the Association. Any criticisms or suggestions that members may wish to send to the Secretaries with regard to the Bill

will be carefully considered, and the members in charge of the Bill will be recommended to introduce any amendment or modification that may be generally desired. For this there will be abundant opportunities in Committee or at the later stages of the Bill during its passage through both Houses of Parliament. In response to suggestions received by the mover of the Bill, he intends to move in Committee:—

Clause 11. To add words authorising the acquisition of buildings by hire or otherwise.

Clause 14. To omit the words "and schools" (leaving this detail, as formerly, at the discretion of the library authority).

Clause 15, l. 38. To alter "rateable" to "annual," and to make any other alteration necessary to produce exact conformity with the provisions of the existing Acts.

Clause 17, l. 35. To alter "rateable" to "annual."

Clause 22. To omit in its entirety (the inspection clause).

To add a clause authorising urban districts to combine with each other, and metropolitan districts and parishes to combine with each other and with the City.

To add a clause to meet the local requirements of Cambridge.

LIBRARY NOTES.

Glasgow.—At a meeting of the Town Council, held on the 3rd inst., the report of the Mitchell Library Committee was presented, from which it appeared that the late Mr. Richard Chalmers had bequeathed his library of about 1,000 volumes to that institution, and that the late Bailie Moir had given a collection of about 2,500 volumes. In the course of the discussion on the report, it was stated that Mr. Moir had also made a pecuniary bequest, estimated at from ten to twelve thousand pounds, and the hope was expressed that, on the expiration of the lease of the present building next year, the Council would provide one more suitable to the requirements of the Library.

Nottingham.—At a meeting of the Town Council last month, a report was presented from the University College and Free Library Committee, introducing a scheme for the management of the College. On a division the report was agreed to.

QUERY.

Whitaker's edition of the "Visio Willi de Petro Ploughman, 1813," 4to, wants pages 265–6. Is this so in all copies?

J. D. M.

Transactions.—Members who are not already in possession of the Reports of the London Conference, and of the Oxford and Manchester meetings, are informed that they may obtain copies from the Chiswick Press, Tooks Court, Chancery Lane, at the price of 10*s.* 6*d.* each volume.

The following are the Notes and Specification presented to the Council by the Metropolitan Free Libraries Association :—

NOTES ON THE FREE LIBRARIES * BILL,

To be known, if passed, as the "Public Libraries (England)" Act, 1881, brought in by Sir JOHN LUBBOCK, Lord GEORGE HAMILTON, and Sir CHARLES REED.

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1. *The Bill consolidates and* (Clause 29) *repeals the four English Acts* (2nd Schedule) :—

   Acts to be adopted by local votes should be easily obtained and understood by local men, but the multiplicity of these Acts causes much ignorance and confusion about them, which would be increased by a mere Amendment Act. And the complete division of England into urban and rural sanitary districts, under the Public Health Act, has made obsolete much of their machinery and phraseology.

2. *The Bill gives power of adoption to* (Clause 5) *urban sanitary districts,* (Clause 6) *rural parishes near them (in combination with them),* (Clause 8) *metropolitan districts and parishes, and* (Clause 28) *the City of London* :—

   (1.) The Acts gave power of separate adoption to all parishes, but only in one metropolitan parish has there been adoption, and only in metropolitan parishes is adoption known to have ever been mooted. And any parish not in an urban sanitary district (*i.e.*, in a borough, Improvement Act district, or local board district) is morally sure to be too small or thinly peopled to support a library by itself. Hence the limitation, which shortens the Bill, is not inimical to the free library movement.

   (2.) The Acts gave a parish power to combine with a borough only when "adjoining" the borough, *i.e.* (according to counsel's opinion in the case of Wigan), only when actually touching the borough boundary. Under the Bill it is enough that the parish be *near* the urban sanitary district—an enlargement which may be of great practical use.

3. *The Bill* (Clauses 5 *s.* 1, 6 *s.* 1) *raises the number of requisitionists needed from* 10 *to* 50 :—

   (1.) It is unreasonable that 10 men should have power to force a public vote once a year.

   (2.) Giving them that power rouses much prejudice against the Acts.

* In these Notes "Library," unless the context shows the contrary, includes Museums, &c., which may be established under the Acts and the Bill.

(3.) The higher number will give the requisition prestige and ensure a strong nucleus of supporters.

If 50 *ratepayers cannot be got to sign the requisition, either there would be no chance of adoption or else the ratepayers must be too few to support a library in decency.*

4. *The Bill provides an uniform system of voting, by* (Clauses 5 *ss.* 1–4, 6 *ss.* 1, 4, 5) *public meeting of ratepayers followed* (Clauses 5 *ss.* 5–9, 7) *by a poll* (*if a poll is claimed in writing by three ratepayers*), *to be taken by voting-papers on which ratepayers vote simply for or against adoption* (1st Schedule) :—

(1.) The Acts allowed alternate systems of voting, (*a*) by public meeting, (*b*) by voting-papers without public meeting—the choice being left to the local authorities.

(2.) The Acts made no provision for a poll after the public meeting, though a poll must be taken if claimed.

(3.) Open voting ascertains the opinions of only a small minority of ratepayers (in metropolitan districts and parishes from $\frac{1}{11}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$). Voting-papers bring an heavy vote (at Richmond $\frac{3}{8}$). They might be made cheaper than open polling, as the requisitionists might so time their action that the voting-papers might be sent out and collected with those for election of guardians.

(4.) The provision made by the Acts for a poll by voting-papers was very inadequate.

5. *The Bill* (Clauses 5 *s.* 1, 6 *s.* 4) *prolongs the maximum interval between requisition and public meeting* (*from* 21) *to* 30 *days.*

To give more time for notification and discussion.

6. *The Bill omits a provision allowing voters to "stipulate" on their voting-papers that the rate shall be some fraction only of the legal maximum of* 1*d. in the £, and forbidding such lower rate to be raised unless by another public vote :—*

(1.) The Bill still leaves power to the rating authority to reduce the rate below 1*d.*; the public are not competent to fix the rate before a library is established; the multiplication of public votes on fractional rates is very undesirable; and the former provision is not known to have taken effect in one single case.

(2.) The former provision, if acted on, would probably lead to endless complications and absurdities. What is to be the rate where 1,000 vote *No* and 1,100 *Yes*, if out of the latter 100 "stipulate" for $\frac{1}{4}$*d.*, 250 for $\frac{1}{2}$*d.*, 350 for $\frac{3}{4}$*d.*, 400 for 1*d.*? Ought not the 1,000 No's to be counted for each lower as against all higher rates? And ought not the voters for each lower rate to be added to the No's as against all higher rates?

7. *The Bill* (Clause 19) *gives power to receive subscriptions by voluntary rate or otherwise* (*the compulsory rate being still limited to* 1*d. in the* £) :—

   In many cases an higher income is wanted to meet the calls on the library, especially where a museum is also supported out of the same rate. But, if the maximum compulsory rate were raised, the progress of the free library movement would be almost entirely stopped for many years to come.

8. *The Bill* (Clause 21) *provides for annual reports to and Parliamentary Returns from the Education Department.*

9. *The Bill* (Clause 22) *allows the Education Department to appoint an Inspector if they think fit.*

10. *The Bill* (Clause 24) *gives the Education Department the option of disestablishing a continuously unsuccessful library, if requested by a two-thirds vote of the library authority* :—

    (1.) The absence of any power to disestablish is constantly urged as a reason for not adopting the Acts; the ratepayers are told that they will have to go on paying the rate for ever, even if no one sets foot in the library.

    (2.) In some few cases the purpose of the Acts has so conspicuously failed, and so much discredit is thereby caused to the Acts, that the libraries in question ought either to be disestablished or compelled to amend themselves by fear of disestablishment.

11. *The Bill* (Clause 26) *punishes corrupt practices at poll* :—

12. *The Bill incidentally removes various minor defects and omissions in the Acts* :—

    E.g., the restriction of the right of voting in boroughs to *burgesses* while the right of compelling a vote was given to *ratepayers*, and the absence of any provision as to interval before public meeting in boroughs.

MEMORANDA.

i. *Extent of adoption of English Acts* :—

   71 places have adopted them:—Aberystwith, Aston, Bangor, Bilston, Birkenhead, Birmingham, Blackburn, Bolton, Bradford, Bridgwater, Brierley Hill, Bristol, Burslem, Cambridge, Canterbury, Cardiff, Chester, Clitheroe, Coventry, Darlaston, Darwen, Derby, Devonport, Doncaster, Exeter, Hereford, Hertford, Heywood, Ipswich, Kidderminster, Leamington, Leeds, Lichfield, Liverpool, Macclesfield, Maidstone, Manchester, Middlesborough, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Newport (Mon.), Northampton, Norwich, Nottingham, Oxford, Plymouth, Preston, Reading, Richmond (Sur.), Rochdale, Salford,

Sheffield, Smethwick, Southport, South Shields, Stockport, Stoke-upon-Trent, Sunderland, Swansea, Tynemouth, Walsall, Warrington, Warwick, Wednesbury, West Bromwich, Westminster (St. Margaret and St. John), Wigan, Willenhall, Winchester, Wolverhampton, Worcester, Wrexham.

ii. *Population of the areas rated under them :—*

4,600,000, according to census of 1871. The benefits of such institutions are often shared, moreover, by persons living just outside the area rated.

iii. **Statistics of Reference Departments :—*

447,000 vols. were in the reference departments *about five years ago, when there were fewer libraries.*

1,192,000 vols. a year were then being consulted by readers.

iv. **Statistics of Lending Departments :—*

561,000 vols. were in the lending departments *about five years ago, when there were fewer libraries.*

3,657,000 vols. a year were then being borrowed for home-reading.

v. *Statistics of Newsrooms :—*

11,000,000 visits a year were being paid in 1879 to newsrooms attached to free libraries, according to a return made to the Library Association of the United Kingdom, which refers on this point to only about two-thirds of such libraries.

vi. *Statistics of Museums and Art-Galleries :—*

2,363,000 visits a year were then being paid (according to the same return) to museums or art-galleries supported in 14 places out of the same 1*d.* rate as the libraries.

vii. *Objects fulfilled by the Acts :—*

(1.) The provision of means for acquiring knowledge in general.

(2.) The provision of means for self-improvement in arts and industries by study of technological works.

(3.) The provision of means for inexpensive and intelligent recreation.

viii. *The provisions of the Bill have been communicated to the Council of the Library Association of the United Kingdom, and have met with their approval.*

* From Parliamentary Return, No. 277 for 1877, which continues and summarises No. 439 for 1876.

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MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

AT the meeting on Friday, May 6, 1881, a paper will be read by Mr. RALPH RICHARDSON, W.S., a Curator of the Signet Library, "On the Rejection of the Library Acts by the Citizens of Edinburgh on the 8th February, 1881."

APRIL MONTHLY MEETING.

THE sixth Monthly Meeting of the fourth year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Friday, April 1, 1881, at 8 p.m., Mr. B. R. WHEATLEY in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. E. Augustus Petherick, who was proposed at the last meeting, was unanimously elected a member.

The following gentlemen were proposed for election by Mr. H. R. TEDDER, and will be balloted for at the next meeting:—Mr. W. Leighton, jun., 40, Brewer Street, Golden Square, and Mr. Edward Hailstone, Walton Hall, Yorkshire.

The following gentlemen, engaged in library administration, were reported as having joined the Association. By the TREASURER:—Mr. S. E. Thompson, Librarian, Free Public Library, Swansea; Rev. A. Gordon (Member of Library Committee), 5, Ceres Villas, Kingston-on-Thames; Mr. Alex. Webster Robertson, Assistant Librarian, University of Aberdeen; Mr. Herbert Griffith (Member of Library Committee, Oxford Union Society), Exeter College, Oxford. By the Rev. S. S. LEWIS, Local Secretary for Cambridge:—Mr. Robert Alexander Neil, Librarian, Pembroke College, Cambridge.

The SECRETARIES, by direction of the Council, laid before the meeting the following resolution of the local committee for the Birmingham district:—

> "That the Free Libraries Bill, as it now stands, would, in the opinion of this Committee, seriously damage Free Libraries, and the amendments required are so numerous that its withdrawal is strongly urged."

The following circular, issued by Sir John Lubbock to the authorities of Free Public Libraries, was also laid before the meeting :—

HOUSE OF COMMONS, *March 26th*, 1881.

SIR,—At the commencement of the Session the Metropolitan Free Libraries Association forwarded me a Bill which they had prepared, and which had been approved by the Council of the Library Association.

I consulted Lord George Hamilton and Sir Charles Reed, and we consented to introduce the Bill, naturally supposing, under the circumstances, that we were acting in accordance with the wishes of those interested in Free Libraries.

At the same time, the subject being one of considerable difficulty, I expressly stated, in moving the second reading, that ample time would be given to consider the clauses before we asked the House of Commons to consider the Bill in Committee.

I now understand that the Mayor of Manchester has summoned a Conference, at which a resolution was passed adverse to the Bill, though no opportunity was afforded us to explain our views, or to indicate the amendments which we intended to propose in Committee.

If we had had the opportunity of attending the Conference, I do not believe that any resolution against the Bill would have been adopted.

At present the further progress of the Bill is blocked by Mr. Warton, but we propose, if possible, to get the Bill through the second reading and commit it *pro forma*, so as to have it reprinted with the amendments. We will then send you a copy, and shall be very glad of any further suggestions with which you may be disposed to favour us, and which we will carefully consider before the Bill goes through Committee.

I understand that you have been requested to petition against our Bill, but I trust that you will not do so, as I believe we shall be able to adopt the main amendments which have been suggested, and that the Bill will prove a useful measure.

Before passing the Bill through Committee we shall give ample time for consideration, and I will only add, in conclusion, that we have no desire to press the Bill unless with the approval of those concerned in the management of Free Libraries.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN LUBBOCK.

The CHAIRMAN then called upon Mr. W. BRACE to read his paper on

F. A. EBERT'S VIEW OF A LIBRARIAN'S EDUCATION.

Mr. BRACE said: Friedrich Adolf Ebert is so well known as a bibliographer that I need say little about him. He was born in 1791, and died 1834. In 1806 he was appointed assistant librarian to the town library of Leipsic, which he soon left to pursue his studies at the University. In 1813 he was appointed librarian to the town library of Leipsic, and in 1814 became secretary to the royal public library at Dresden. In 1820 he published an edition of thirty-eight copies of a little treatise on the education of the librarian, and a second enlarged edition,* extending to sixty-eight octavo pages, in the same year. I am not aware of any English translation. This little treatise is often referred to, and contains so much useful matter that it appears to me to be well worthy of

* Die Bildung des Bibliothekars. Von Friedrich Adolf Ebert, Doctor der Philosophie und Secretair der Königl. öffentl. Bibliotheke nzu Dresden. Zweite umgearbeitete Ausgabe. Leipzig, 1820. 8vo, pp. 68.

our attention at a time when the Association has this subject under consideration.

It is curious to remark the difference between Ebert's estimate of the librarian's office and that prevailing in America and England at the present day. He says:—"The librarian of modern times holds a different position from that of his predecessors, and one which will afford him but little satisfaction. With the altered spirit of study, and the more prevailing inclination towards independent research and freedom of investigation; with the general endeavour to work out individually what was formerly only treated of collectively; and lastly, with the appearance of so large a number of literary works, he has ceased to be that oracle for old and young that he formerly was. . . . The labours of the librarian now relate more to posterity, for whom he must be a faithful and intelligent depositary; his intercourse with the present is in general merely mechanical. It is for posterity that he collects from his own and former times all that, on mature consideration, he considers worth collecting, and for posterity he arranges what he has collected, according to principles which it alone can maintain. We must not hide from ourselves the fact that it requires no little courage to sow and care for the seed of which we shall never see the joyful harvest; and that it demands great self-denial to refrain from productions of our own, that we may laboriously, and in silent obscurity, prepare for future works of others whom we know not."

Our author then begins by setting up a tolerably high standard of what is to be required of the intending student. He says that ability to fulfil the duties of his calling depends with the librarian, as with everyone else, upon thorough preparatory knowledge—the difference between him and scholars in other departments of learning is that this preparatory knowledge must be as wide and varied as possible. No scholar can dispense with a thorough study of the Greek and Latin languages; the librarian must also thoroughly understand French, Italian, and English, and as to the other western languages he must have the power of supplying present needs with the aid of a good grammar and lexicon. Oriental languages are not so much required; they possess peculiar difficulties and are less frequently needed, although some knowledge of Hebrew, which is not so difficult, will be of great use to him. Moreover, an earnest and thorough study of history is indispensable, seeing that his office is entirely historical. He who works for the future must in a certain manner stand above the present, and although always attentive to appearances in the present, he must never allow himself to be drawn aside from his course, nor permit his judgment to be influenced by local or temporary partiality.

A most important part of these preparatory studies is that relating to the history of literature and bibliography, with both of which the whole work of the librarian is connected, and by which it is influenced, so that he must possess a more than usual knowledge of them. The same is the case with diplomatics, so far as it relates to the handwriting of manuscripts. He will seldom have an oppor-

tunity of acquiring a practical knowledge of this last before entering upon his duties, but it is necessary that he bring a good theoretical groundwork. Some knowledge of art, at least so far as relates to copper-plate and wood engraving, and especially the archæology thereof, becomes every year more necessary to the librarian. Lastly, he must limit the circle of his studies with the encyclopædia; not that he may vainly and self-complacently chatter about everything, "from the cedar of Lebanon to the hyssop that springeth out of the wall," but that he may attain that equality of respect and interest for each branch of human knowledge, without which he will be guilty of the most awkward onesidedness in collecting; and may acquire that thorough knowledge of the state, divisions, boundaries, and manifold points of contact of the different sciences, which he hourly needs in the work of arrangement.

Of the natural gifts which he must possess, it will suffice to mention a good memory. Indispensable as is an accurate and retentive memory for titles, names, and numbers, a trustworthy memory for place is even more so. The librarian who is always obliged to refer to his catalogue to find what he wants is a man sincerely to be pitied. Equally necessary is a good, clear, and swift handwriting; and the knowledge and practice of some mechanical arts are not to be despised. In large libraries, as in small, he will often be spared vexatious delay and trouble of many kinds if he has learned to help himself. He who, for every loose leaf or insecure or misplaced shelf, is obliged to call in the binder or carpenter, will often find his work unpleasantly interrupted; not to mention the disadvantage to him of an ignorance of such matters, when the workmen must labour under his supervision, and partly also according to his instructions.

This is enough to make one exclaim, nearly in the words of Rasselas, "Thou hast persuaded me that no human being can ever be a librarian." But it is not all; for he proceeds to say that all this knowledge and aptitude secure no more than the possibility of becoming an efficient librarian. They are merely *præcognoscenda;* and just as the jurist, after a thorough academical training, is not yet a good practical lawyer, so this knowledge produces no more than a good and sufficient literary man. With all his literary knowledge, he may be unfit to carry on his own business!

In marking out a course of study, our author begins by dismissing the writers on library science as distinctly to be avoided, and charges them with falling into the errors of mechanical practice on the one hand, and over-fine theorising on the other. This may have been true sixty years ago, but to show that it is not so now, it will be sufficient to mention Petzholdt's "Katechismus der Bibliothekenlehre," and the later English and American writings on the subject. Passing over such works, our author advises his student to confine himself to the study of the arrangement of good catalogues. I omit many of the catalogues to which he refers, retaining only the most important. He begins by recommending Francke's Catalogue of the Bünau Library and Audiffredi's

Catalogue of the Casanate Library—the former as a pattern of a subject catalogue, the latter as that of an author catalogue; each unsurpassed in its kind, and perhaps unsurpassable. In these the student will see how titles should be copied, and what exactitude must be observed, even to the smallest detail, and will learn what to extract for each kind of catalogue, and how; and also the arrangement which each kind of catalogue requires. In this study he is to begin with Audiffredi, and when he has thoroughly learned what is wanted in an author catalogue, especially in the entry of anonymous and pseudonymous works, he may go to Francke's subject catalogue. If he has so studied both that he clearly understands the principles adopted in their construction, he can proceed to compare them with other catalogues, and will, for the first time, fully learn the excellence of these masters by comparison with their contraries. When he has learned to distinguish wherein these catalogues differ, and can form a well-founded judgment as to the worth or worthlessness of each, he is to proceed to the difficult task of comparing several subject catalogues, beginning with the catalogues of his own country, and then taking in hand the classified catalogues of other nations, seeking out the principles of classification peculiar to each nation, comparing them with the principles obtaining in his own, and attempting to form an independent judgment upon them. From these general catalogues he is to go on to those which contain rich collections in particular branches, and examine their classification. Thus prepared, he is to proceed to attempts of his own by copying on separate slips the titles of books in different but special subjects which appear in all these catalogues, mixing them together and re-arranging them according to his own ideas, and then observing how these books are arranged in those catalogues. Having practised this until he knows how to deal with works on special subjects, and those which run into more than one subject, he is to try to form a clear conception of his principles of classification and their systematic development. In doing this, he must observe what features in this or that catalogue are nationally, locally, or individually peculiar and liable to change with alteration of time or place. If we keep in view the historical character of libraries at the present day, and bear in mind that they are not, as formerly, institutions designed to act directly upon the life of the present, as schools and universities do, but are now become scientific repositories for future generations, it is self-evident that their organisation must not be conditioned and ruled merely by the existing wants of the day, but be so contrived that our successors, with systems of their own, may be able easily to find everything and to carry out our plan. After this general preparation, the student is advised to proceed to special subjects, and learn from good models how incunabula, copperplate or wood engravings, and choice copies, should be catalogued and described, and to this add some practice. He is also recommended to make himself acquainted with the French, English, and Italian bibliographical terms of art; to learn, for example, that *réclames*,

richiami, and *catchwords* denote the German *Custoden; pontuseaux* or *watermarks*, *Wassermarke;* that the *registre* of the French is neither *Inhaltsverzeichniss* (table of contents), nor *Register* (alphabetical index), both of which are indiscriminately called *table*, but the signature, *registrum chartarum*, of old printing; nor, it may be added, is it the same as the English *register*.

He is also to make himself well acquainted with the Bandini catalogue of MSS., as a masterpiece of its kind, and a worthy collateral to Francke and Audiffredi. From this he is to proceed to greater and bolder attempts, in classifying and arranging his own collection of books or other private collections. Here he will find that the difference of size hinders books from being placed in exactly the same order as they occupy in a well-arranged catalogue, and will then fully feel the need of a shelf-list. But he must not be led to the notion that the shelving is to be regulated by a different principle from that which was followed in the arrangement of the catalogue. The only difference is that the same system has to be carried out in each size with a few slight modifications, and this is easily done by making only three sizes, and not separating the octavos from those which are not very different, as with French books. Attentive reading of descriptions of libraries, and frequent visits to the libraries of his neighbourhood, complete the preparatory education. His attention is principally directed to the placing of the books and minor details, and reckoning up the most advantageous way of using a given space.

When appointed he is to begin by making himself acquainted with the present organisation of his library, and carefully study its history, examining the old and superseded catalogues, and wherein they differ from the present plan, and make himself familiar with the handwriting of his predecessors and former possessors of purchased collections, until from outward signs, as old shelf-marks, manuscript notes, binding, or other peculiarities, he can at once tell from what source this or that book came. The importance of this is enforced by showing that it is only in this way that he can acquire an accurate memory and practical turn of mind, and be secure against that disposition to hasty alteration which is especially injurious in a library. Special attention is to be given to the arrangement of the library, and noting what presses or rooms are not usefully occupied. Experience only can teach how much space can be gained by judicious rearrangement. In such attempts he must know how to handle books with dexterity, and must not fear the trouble of re-arranging the same press or room several times until he has attained his purpose. On these accounts it is necessary that he should carry out the principal part of the work himself, and only call in the aid of attendants in individual cases. When thus acquainted with his library and its alterations, he may take up treatises of library science, and compare theory and practice. He will now have passed beyond the instructions of others, and may fairly take up the clue where his predecessor left off, and carry it further.

I pass over several other points of library management which are ably dealt with in this little treatise, but are not necessarily connected with the subject of this paper. One piece of advice to the newly-appointed librarian is worth recording, and is the last passage to which I shall refer. "Let him not undertake either total or partial alterations with a self-satisfied and unfavourable prepossession against the work of earlier times. Let him seek out its good points, and try whether its deficiencies may not be supplied without an alteration of the whole. But if a thoroughly radical reform is undertaken, let him sketch out a detailed and well-considered plan, in accordance with which the work may be carried out in sections, so that the parts which are not immediately under alteration may be kept in working order. A library which already has a definite arrangement ought not to be entirely inaccessible for a single day, even during the most thoroughgoing re-arrangement."

Although the remarks on the historical character of the librarian's office do not fully apply to our modern popular libraries, yet they have a bearing upon them which is often overlooked. Few libraries are burdened with superfluous funds, and as every purchase of a needless book keeps out a needful one, it is important that, in supplying the wants of the present day, care should be taken to avoid overloading the shelves with purely ephemeral matter, only valuable for its novelty and soon superseded, to the exclusion of more needful modern works. I know that this has been the case with some libraries, but am unable to judge how far the evil extends. The observations on the danger of hasty re-arrangement fall more within the range of my experience. Coleridge's maxim, "Until you understand a writer's ignorance, presume yourself ignorant of his understanding," will apply to librarians as well as to authors. With books, and especially with MSS. and documents, it is always worth taking pains to find out how they came into the order in which they are found; and until this is known, however illogical that arrangement may appear, it should not unadvisedly be disturbed. The finding of two MSS. together will sometimes lead to the discovery of an important and unsuspected connection between their subjects, or of the fact that they were at one time wrongly thought to be connected. Hasty re-arrangement will often destroy the chance of making many such discoveries.

In conclusion, I wish to call attention to the practical character of Ebert's requirements. It is hardly to be hoped that many persons could be found with all the qualifications and acquirements enumerated by him, but it will be seen that they include some humble but very necessary qualifications which are frequently overlooked, and that the difference between the ideal and the attainable is one of degree and not of kind. For example, knowledge of languages is necessary, but for an assistant it may be sufficient if at the beginning he knows enough to copy a title correctly; and a general knowledge of science and literature,

though superficial, will be much more useful than a mere acquaintance with *à priori* systems of classification, without any practical experience of their working. A good memory for places, legible handwriting, and general mechanical dexterity are also important, and frequently overlooked in discussions on this subject.

It would not be difficult to find many persons with considerable pretensions to literary acquirements who, by their awkwardness in handling books and inability to remember their places, would be a hindrance rather than a help in a library, whose slow or illegible writing would render their assistance anything but desirable in preparation of catalogues, statistics, and reports, and whose want of skill in the mechanical part of their work would cause increase of injury to the books rather than prevent it. Many other of Ebert's suggestions appear to me to be capable of adoption with advantage; for example, it would be well if we were to make known what are the best printed catalogues of each kind, that library authorities, in ordering the preparation of new catalogues, may see how such work has been done and ought to be done, and those about to make them may know where to find good patterns and may judge of different kinds of catalogues from the best specimens of each.

Discussion.—Mr. Tedder considered that business habits and capacity were most important points. A librarian should, above all things, be a man of business. He wished to take this opportunity of protesting against the misuse of the saying, "The librarian who reads is lost." This had been so constantly misrepresented and misunderstood that the author must regret that he ever wrote it.—The Chairman said that some of his most valuable knowledge had been acquired in looking through books in the course of his work. There was now little opportunity of reading books through.—Mr. Welch said that if a librarian did not make himself acquainted with the contents of the books, he would be unable to give that information to readers which they constantly demanded, and which it formed an important part of his duties to supply.—After some further discussion, a vote of thanks was given to Mr. Brace for his paper.

The reading of Mr. Richardson's paper was adjourned until the next monthly meeting.

ANSWER TO QUERY.

Whitaker's edition of "Visio Willi de Petro Ploughman," 1813, 4to.—Pp. 265–6 are absent from the copy in the Mitchell Library. It appears from the text and the paraphrase to be a typographical error, but is not named in the page of errata. Signatures Ll and Mm have each four leaves. F. T. B.

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MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

AT the meeting on Friday, June 3, 1881, a paper will be read by Mr. HENRY WILSON, Assistant Librarian, British Museum, on "A French Provincial Library—Tours."

The following notice convening a Special General Meeting of the Association has been issued :—

In pursuance of a requisition signed by seven members of the Council, and forwarded to me in accordance with Article 21 of the Constitution, I hereby convene a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Association, to be held in London, at the London Institution, Finsbury Circus, E.C., on Wednesday, the 18th of May, at three o'clock in the afternoon, to consider the question of altering the place and time fixed for the Annual Meeting this year.

It is stated to me, on behalf of the Council, that circumstances have arisen which make it appear to them to be extremely desirable to postpone the visit of the Association to Cambridge until next year. This step would be in accordance with the wishes and feelings of the Cambridge members, who promise the Association a cordial reception in 1882.

Although there is no power given by the Constitution to collect votes by proxy or in writing, I am sure that full weight will be attached by the Special General Meeting to the written opinions and suggestions of those members who cannot be present in person.

(Signed) H. O. COXE, *President.*

OXFORD, 25*th April*, 1881.

The Rev. Dr. Geo. Deane, Principal of Springhill College Library, was wrongly described in our March number as a member of the Committee of the Birmingham Library.

Copies of the statistical tables of Public Libraries prepared for the Manchester meeting of the Association may be obtained at 1*s.* each, or 5*s.* per dozen for distribution, on application to the Secretaries, Mr. E. C. Thomas, 13, South Square, Gray's Inn, W.C.; and Mr. C. Welch, Corporation Library, Guildhall, E.C.

MAY MONTHLY MEETING.

THE seventh Monthly Meeting of the fourth year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Friday, May 6, 1881, at 8 p.m., Mr. CORNELIUS WALFORD in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. W. Leighton, jun., and Mr. Edward Hailstone, who were proposed at the last meeting, were unanimously elected.

The following gentlemen were proposed for election, and will be balloted for at the next meeting. By the TREASURER:—The Ven. Archdeacon Hannah, Brighton. By Mr. C. E. SCARSE, Local Secretary for Birmingham:—Mr. W. Harris, Elvethan Road, Edgbaston.

The following gentlemen engaged in library administration were reported as having joined the Association. By Mr. W. J. HAGGERSTON, Local Secretary for Newcastle:—Mr. George Tidey, Librarian, Tynemouth Free Library. By Mr. C. E. SCARSE, Local Secretary for Birmingham:—Mr. R. K. Dent, Librarian, Free Library, Aston, near Birmingham.

In the absence of the writer, the CHAIRMAN called upon one of the Secretaries to read a paper by Mr. RALPH RICHARDSON, W.S.,

ON THE REJECTION OF THE LIBRARY ACTS BY THE CITIZENS OF EDINBURGH, ON THE 8TH FEBRUARY, 1881.

As I took part in the recent movement for the adoption of the Library Acts by the ratepayers of Edinburgh, I venture to lay before the Library Association the causes which led to the unfortunate rejection of the Acts. For the credit of our city, however, I would state that our public-spirited Lord Provost (Boyd) was warmly in favour of the adoption of the Acts; that a considerable majority of the Town Council supported his Lordship; and that three out of the five daily newspapers of Edinburgh contained repeated leading articles urging the citizens to adopt the Acts. The Congress of the Library Association, which met in Edinburgh last autumn, being unanimously of opinion that our city should adopt the Library Acts, the Trades' Council of Edinburgh began a movement for the establishment of a Free Library in Edinburgh, and very soon secured the signatures of 1,000 working-men ratepayers to a petition requesting the Lord Provost and Magistrates to test the question by a public vote under the Library Act of 1877.

Against the Lord Provost, the Trades' Council, and our leading newspapers were arrayed most of the hotel and shopkeepers of Edinburgh. It is but fair to the latter to state that trade has been uncommonly dull here for some time past, and that shopkeepers' profits have consequently been very small. The shopkeepers also used an argument which should be considered by those entrusted with the Bill amending the Library Acts presently before the House of Commons. They said that the "Library rate," levied under the Library Acts, would be levied both upon their houses and their shops, and that whilst citizens who had no shops would pay only upon their houses, shopkeepers would be doubly taxed, as they would pay

both upon their shops and their houses. Possibly a clause might be introduced into the Amendment Bill allowing ratepayers to say whether the Library rate shall be levied only upon house property. Probably, in that event, the maximum of the Library rate should be fixed at 2*d.* in the pound, instead of 1*d.* in the pound, as at present.

The *time*, too, for taking the vote in Edinburgh was unfortunate. It was taken when the burgh assessments were payable, and the horror of "a new tax" being imposed upon the citizens was fully appreciated by them.

The supporters of the movement to adopt the Library Acts had no organisation, and relied solely upon the intelligence and public spirit of the citizens. The opponents of the movement, again, had a committee which sat daily, and spared neither labour nor expense; which canvassed the city as at political elections; which placarded the walls with enormous posters; and which marched files of sandwich-men through the leading streets, bearing huge bills containing such as the following elegant appeal:—

RATEPAYERS!
RESIST THIS FREE LIBRARY DODGE!
And Save Yourselves from the Burden of £6,000
of Additional Taxation.
Return your cards marked "No."
Be sure and sign your Names.

The "£6,000 of additional taxation," which was used so successfully to terrify our ratepayers into rejecting the Library Acts, is the Library rate of 1*d.* in the pound upon the present rental of our city. This "appeal to the pocket" prevailed; the "£6,000 of additional taxation" proved a bait irresistible to the average Edinburgh ratepayer; and, for a second time, the Library Acts were rejected.

For, unfortunately, this is not the first time that Edinburgh appears upon the short "Black List" of towns that have rejected the Library Acts. In 1868 the citizens of Edinburgh, voting under the Library Act of 1867, at a public meeting of householders, vetoed the adoption of the Acts. In 1881 the ratepayers of Edinburgh have again done so, voting by voting papers under the Library Act of 1877. Of the total number of 41,853 ratepayers of Edinburgh, 15,708 voted against, and 7,619 voted for the adoption of the Acts. Of the remaining 18,526 ratepayers, 15,521 did not return their voting cards, 1,650 could not be found by the Post Office, and 1,355 were "spoilt" votes by the cards being unsigned or having some condition appended. Thus, 23,327 ratepayers voted unconditionally "yes" or "no"; and 17,171 ratepayers did not vote at all, *i.e.*, did not return their voting cards, or could not be found by the Post Office.

In the voting cards issued to the ratepayers they were asked to fill in the word "yes" or "no" to "the question whether the Public Libraries Acts shall be adopted." I believe that most of the 15,521 ratepayers who did not return their cards abstained simply because they were in entire ignorance as to what the term

"the Public Libraries Acts" meant. I heard of a lady ratepayer, of otherwise high intelligence, who threw her voting card into the waste-paper basket because, she said, she could not understand it!

Clearly, the Library Association should try to do something to dispel the mists of Scottish ignorance and indifference on the Free Library question. Out of 100 existing Free Libraries in the United Kingdom, England can boast of 82 and Wales of 7, whilst Scotland has only 10, and Ireland 1. Scotland has a smaller number of Free Libraries than a single English county such as Stafford. The cause of this, and of Edinburgh rejecting the Library Acts twice, must be ignorance and indifference. Our citizens do not yet understand the benefits capable of being conferred upon a town by a Free Public Library. They do not realise that such an institution exerts intellectually and morally an elevating influence, and they do not comprehend that it is at once an agent of Education and of Temperance.

Of course, all the more intellectual and liberal-minded citizens of Edinburgh supported the movement to adopt the Library Acts; but their influence was small compared with that of the sandwich-men's glaring "appeal to the pocket." As might also be expected, all the Liberal newspapers of Edinburgh were strong supporters of the Free Library; whilst the Conservative organs either opposed it or "damned it with faint praise." To be just, however, to the Conservative party in Edinburgh, the leading Conservatives of the city signed the petition in favour of the adoption of the Library Acts, whilst some local Liberals, whilst violently opposing the proposal to levy a rate of 1*d.* in the pound to establish a Free Public Library with Reading-rooms, News-rooms, and Branch Libraries throughout Edinburgh, warmly supported the Free Education Bill, which proposes to allow communities to tax themselves to the extent of 1*d.* in the pound in order to secure free education. The consistency of the latter citizens was called in question by the Liberal journals, and still remains enigmatic.

The University of Edinburgh, through its distinguished heads, showed a worthy example. Its Chancellor (Lord President Inglis), its Lord Rector (the Earl of Rosebery), and its Principal (Sir Alexander Grant, Bart.), were all in favour of the Free Library movement. So also were the Librarians of the other great Libraries of Edinburgh, viz., Mr. Clark, of the Advocates' Library, and Mr. Law, of the Signet Library. Evidently the great Libraries of Edinburgh felt no jealousy of the proposed Free Library. If any such jealousy was shown it was by the owners of small Circulating libraries throughout the city, and by libraries formed for working men, but which, being far inferior to such as the Library Acts afford, had failed to enlist the support of the working classes.

The movement to adopt the Library Acts in Edinburgh was conjoined with another, which, to many minds, was as important. This was to secure the Advocates' Library as a National Public Reference Library. It was proposed that the citizens of Edinburgh should take over this great Library from the Faculty of Advocates, maintaining it in all its details by means of the Library rate. It

was also proposed that, as the Advocates' Library has no worthy Reading-hall, a spacious one should be built on George IV. Bridge, where there is an admirable vacant site in close proximity to the Advocates' Library, which would have been connected with the Reading-hall, and would have formed a magnificent Reference department for the Free Library. At present, Edinburgh does not possess suitable facilities for literary work being done for her publishers, who have consequently to employ workers in the British Museum. If the Library Acts had been adopted, this stigma would have been removed from our city.

I trust and believe that ere long the Library Acts will be adopted by Edinburgh; but, before that event occurs, much ignorance and indifference must be overcome. Perhaps a series of lectures might be inaugurated by the Library Association, to be given annually in Edinburgh by gentlemen practically conversant with Free Libraries. The citizens of Edinburgh really require to be enlightened on the subject. A casuist argued that whatever is done in ignorance cannot be charged against the otherwise guilty. This must be Edinburgh's plea at present. As to those who have recently struggled for the adoption of the Library Acts in Edinburgh, they have had their Battle of Pavia, and may exclaim, "All is lost, save honour."

After a discussion, in which the Chairman and Messrs. Bullen, Tedder, Wilson, Thomas, and Welch took part, a unanimous vote of thanks was given to Mr. RICHARDSON for his paper.

A letter was read from Mr. POOLE, giving an account of the progress made with his index, and stating that the whole of it would be in the printer's hands by the end of the year, and when complete would make a closely-printed volume of 1,200 pages, royal octavo. It was resolved, on the motion of Mr. BRACE, seconded by Mr. WELCH, "That this meeting receives with great satisfaction the report of the progress made by Mr. Poole, and congratulates him upon the forward state of his great undertaking."

Mr. TEDDER explained Von Laer's "Perfect Binder," of which a number of specimens were exhibited by the inventor. The binder is in the form of an ordinary book-cover, half-bound in roan, calf, or morocco, with corners and cloth sides; the back is solid, rounded outside and flat inside. The fastening arrangement consists of a number of narrow slips of plated steel, pivoted at the upper end and secured at the foot by a locking device, a separate fastener being used for each number. A single part can thus be withdrawn and replaced in a few seconds, without disturbing the others, and without mutilation. The fasteners are separated at the pivoted end by small spiral springs of wire, and are thus adjustable to varying thicknesses of pamphlets or periodicals. The cases are made of all sizes, to meet the requirements of different periodicals, and cost varies from about 5*s*. to 9*s*. The "Perfect Binder" is widely used in America, but no price list has yet been issued in this country, as the inventor is negotiating for the sale of his patent to a leading London stationery firm. The

specimens were inspected by the members with attention, and much approbation was expressed.

Mr. WELCH exhibited Zimmerli's "Statistical Diagram Chart," size 18 by 24 inches. This table is prepared to exhibit two years' statistics at one view, and is divided by black perpendicular lines for weekly, and by red for monthly, quarterly, or annual returns. Numbers are indicated by horizontal lines. The cost of each sheet is 2*s*. 6*d*. It is published by Messrs. Letts and Co.

LIBRARY NOTES.

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.—At the meeting held at Washington, Mr. F. H. Poole read an important paper on the construction of library buildings, and described the details of the plan of a library constructed on the principles advocated by him. Mr. Poole proposes, on a plot of ground 200 ft. square, to erect a building of four stories and a basement, each story to be divided into ten rooms, isolated from each other by thick fireproof walls, access obtained only by a light iron corridor on each floor around the inner quadrangle, so that if fire occurred in any one room it could not affect the other thirty-nine. The central building, 60 ft. by 75 ft., is to be occupied by the working rooms for librarian and his staff; a series of wings, 50 ft. wide, will then be carried round the plot, leaving a centre area, 90 ft. by 90 ft., for air and light. By this means every room will have light from two sides. This subdivision of rooms is utilised for classification of the library, and thus a student of any subject is directed to the room devoted to his subject, where on entering he will find tables and chairs and necessary appliances, and beyond he will see double bookcases, 8 ft. high, 18 in. wide, arranged in rows 3 ft. apart, with 4 ft. aisles between each row. These bookcases contain the octavos and smaller sizes, the folios and quartos being shelved in wall cases. The 7 ft. left of the height of the room above the cases gives ample space for high light and air. This scheme of giving to each department of literature its own library room, containing within itself its own reading-room, must commend itself to students as eminently preferable to the noisy, stuffy, general reading-room so familiar to us in our own public libraries. The construction throughout is to be fireproof, iron girders covered with terra-cotta, steel shutters to every window. Such a building, with its forty library rooms, would hold two million volumes, and is capable of extension, either by adding on more stories, easily reached by elevators, or, if there be room, by lateral enlargement. Constructed of sandstone and brick exterior, and interior as already described, with its furniture and shelving of hard wood, this building would cost, on a Chicago estimate, £108,000.

FRANCE.—"Material advances have taken place in the Library system of France in recent years, and municipal libraries, in Paris especially, have greatly increased. Paris, indeed, now offers a striking contrast to London, where there is not a single lending library maintained out of the local rates, and where the governing

bodies and the citizens at large appear to be equally ignorant of the advantages to be derived from such institutions. In 1878 there were but five of these lending libraries at work in Paris; now there are sixteen. Then the number of readers was 29,389; by 1879 they had increased to 57,840, and last year it is believed, although the official return is not yet published, that they exceeded 100,000. The libraries are not large, for the entire number of volumes in the sixteen institutions was but 55,000. They possess, however, a healthy power of development, and may be expected to increase alike in extent and in public utility. The movement has not been restricted to the arrondissements of Paris. The suburban communes which fringe the city have been equally alive to the necessity of healthy reading for the people. There are thirty-four of these suburban libraries, which are aided to a certain extent by the Conseil Général of the Seine. There are also about twenty popular libraries established by private initiative, but which receive also some help from the municipal authorities, although their income is derived chiefly from legacies and subscriptions."—*Manchester Guardian.*

GLASGOW.—MITCHELL LIBRARY.—The "Poet's Corner" has been enriched by the purchase of a collection of editions of Burns and of works relating to him, formed by Mr. James Gibson, of Liverpool, and comprising about 600 volumes.

GLASGOW.—STIRLING'S PUBLIC LIBRARY.—At a meeting of the Directors, held on the 28th of April, Mr. Thomas Mason, Senior Assistant Librarian of the Mitchell Library, was appointed Librarian. This library is estimated to contain nearly 50,000 volumes.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—Mr. Charles Baxter, of the Swansea Public Library, has lately been appointed Second Assistant to the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Public Libraries.

PRESTON.—The trustees of the late E. R. Harris, late prothonotary of Lancashire, who have the disposal of the bequest of over £200,000 for certain charitable purposes generally indicated in the will, have just approved of a scheme submitted by a deputation from the Free Library Committee of Preston Corporation for the erection and endowment of a new free library, subject to the sanction of the Master of the Rolls. £60,000 is granted for the building, £7,500 for a reference library, a similar sum for works of art, and £15,000 for endowment. It is reported that the trustees are making a grant of between £25,000 and £40,000 towards the endowment of technical education in connection with institutions for the diffusion of useful knowledge.

QUERY.

AUTHOR WANTED.—I have had an assurance given me, which I should be glad to have confirmed by some other authority, that the real name of the writer of some popular works for schoolboys, known as Ascott R. Hope, is R. H. Moncrieff. A. W. R.

NOTICES OF BOOKS AND LIBRARY REPORTS.

Notes on Free Public Libraries and Museums. Edited by James Hibbert. Preston, 1881. [Privately printed.] 8vo, pp. xii., 110.

Containing a report to the Free Library Committee of Preston upon the Harris Free Public Library and Museum project, followed by an account of the origin and progress of the Free Public Libraries of France, the United Kingdom, and America. These notes, which formed in part the materials for the report, appeared at intervals during the year 1879 in the *Preston Guardian*, and are now printed in a collected form.

The Committee of the Free Library, Dundee (Mr. J. Maclauchlan, Librarian), report that 170,580 volumes were issued in the lending department during the past year. The number of readers' cards was 7,465, being an increase of 230 in the year. The issues in the reference department were 71,453 volumes. During the past year increased accommodation has been provided for readers, new bookcases and fittings have been erected in the Albert Hall, and new catalogues prepared.

The Report of the Mitchell Library, 1880 (Mr. F. T. Barrett, Librarian), states the number of volumes, Dec. 31, 1880, at 33,019, exclusive of duplicates. The collection of early Glasgow printing has been considerably enlarged and contains 390 volumes, of which about 250 were printed by the house of Foulis. The whole number of books issued was 390,732, being an increase of 10,984 over the previous year. The majority of readers belong to the artisan class, there is a large attendance of clerks and warehousemen, and a good number of students, with some professional men. The large extent to which the library is used for purposes of study is shown by the frequency of readers copying into their note-books, and the many cases of continuous courses of reading in the same subject.

The Report of the Public Libraries Committee of Newcastle-upon-Tyne (Mr. W. J. Haggerston, Librarian), states that from the inauguration on Sept. 13, 1880, to March 19, 1881, the number of readers' tickets issued for the lending library was 14,010, of which 780 had been cancelled through death, removal, and other causes, leaving 13,230 in use on March 19, 1880, divided as follows:—Burgesses, 4,161; Non-Burgesses, 9,069. There were 20,000 volumes in this department at the opening, 1,000 of which constituted the juvenile department. The total issue in 151½ days was 187,448 volumes. The reference library contains 3,172 volumes, chiefly consisting of the best editions of standard authors in general literature, and rare and costly works in the fine arts, antiquities, topography, etc.

The Fourth Annual Report of the Free Public Library Committee of Plymouth (Mr. W. H. K. Wright, Librarian) records the addition of 1,460 volumes during the year, making a total of 12,721. The issues for the year were, in the lending department, 154,826 volumes; the total in all departments, 171,851. Many important local works have been added to the Devon and Cornwall section, which now comprises more than 1,000 volumes, maps, and pamphlets.

The Third Report of the Librarian of the Wigan Free Public Library (Mr. H. T. Folkard) shows an increase during the year of 860 volumes to the reference department, and 82 to the lending department, the whole number of volumes being 24,201. The issues in the reference department were 4,083, in the lending department 57,748; the number of new tickets issued to borrowers was 770. The news-room remains the most popular branch of the library, the average daily attendance being 700.

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MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

AT the meeting on Friday, July 1, 1881, a paper will be read by Mr. G. R. HUMPHERY, Hon. Librarian of Messrs. F. Braby and Co.'s Library and Club, on "Workmen's Libraries."

THE Annual Meeting will probably be held on Tuesday, 13th September, 1881, and the following days, at Gray's Inn Hall and Library, on the invitation of the Hon. Society of Gray's Inn.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.

IN pursuance of the notice printed in our last number (p. 37), a Special General Meeting was held at the London Institution, on Wednesday, May 18, 1881, at 3 p.m., Mr. R. HARRISON, Treasurer, in the chair.

The notice convening the meeting having been read by one of the secretaries, the substance of the letters received from members who were unable to be present was then read. The majority of the writers suggested London as the most convenient place for the annual meeting.

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. C. WALFORD, it was unanimously resolved:—

"That it is desirable to postpone the meeting at Cambridge until next year."

The place for the next Annual Meeting was then considered, and after some discussion it was resolved, on a division,

"That the Annual Meeting of the Association be held in London."

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN it was unanimously resolved that the date of the meeting should be fixed by the Council. A vote of thanks was then passed to the Chairman, and the meeting dissolved.

JUNE MONTHLY MEETING.

THE eighth Monthly Meeting of the fourth year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Friday, June 3, 1881, at 8 p.m., Mr. R. HARRISON, Treasurer, in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting and those of the Special General Meeting having been read and confirmed, the Ven. Archdeacon Hannah and Mr. W. Harris, who were proposed at the last Monthly Meeting, were unanimously elected.

The Rev. Donald J. Mackay, Canon Precentor and Librarian of St. Ninian's Cathedral, Perth, was reported by the TREASURER as having joined the Association.

In the absence of the writer the Chairman called on one of the secretaries to read the following paper, by Mr. HENRY WILSON:—

A FRENCH PROVINCIAL LIBRARY—TOURS.

The library of Tours is one of the oldest and richest in France. It has been formed out of the libraries of religious bodies in Touraine, among which were especially distinguished St. Martin's Abbey at Tours, the renowned Abbey of Marmoutiers, in the vicinity of the city, and the metropolitan chapter of St. Gatien, all of them dating, it is needless to remind you, from a high antiquity. Our countryman, Alcuin, the disciple of Bede, was the founder of the Abbey of St. Martin, and there, after actively promoting the cause of education in the dominions of Charlemagne, he retired to superintend the multiplication of precious writings, and watch with affectionate care over the labours of its great scriptorium. The Abbey of Marmoutier was Benedictine, and that is sufficient guarantee for the value of the literary treasures of which it was dispossessed at the Revolution, and which in 1791 were united with the two other collections just mentioned, to form the nucleus of the Municipal Library, which numbers at present about 60,000 volumes.

I have no intention of making an inventory of all the literary lions it contains, but I cannot omit mention of a few of the most remarkable bibliographical treasures. Among the manuscripts, then, we note a Codex Aureus of the eighth century, an Evangeliarium, which has long ago been despoiled of its "cover of gold, weighing 38 marcs, studded with pearls and precious stones," a Bible of the ninth century, and other manuscripts dating from the tenth to the eighteenth century, and precious either on account of their artistic, archæological, or historical value. There must also be named a Psalter of the thirteenth century, in a wooden binding, executed by Jean de l'Angle, binder at Tours in the fifteenth century; and a fourteenth century Missal, according to the use of the Church in England, which formerly belonged to the Hungerford family, and afterwards to De Bueil, Admiral of France. These and other manuscripts are displayed in glass cases, and, disposed in chronological order, they enable the student to follow the progress of

miniature painting or illumination from the eighth to the eighteenth century.

Other remarkable manuscripts are a Latin dictionary of the ninth century, a collection of Greek historians of the eleventh, which Peiresc (1637) procured from Cyprus, an Ovid of the twelfth century, together with many old French romances.

The library possesses 400 incunabula, at the head of which must be mentioned the Mayence Bible of 1462, and the magnificent Tours Missal of 1485, on vellum. These treasures have not been without their vicissitudes, even quite recently. It will be remembered that the German operations in the war of 1870–71 extended as far as Tours. During this period the more valuable of the books and manuscripts were taken by the conservateur, M. Dorange, to Biarritz, whence they were brought back to their home after the termination of hostilities.

It must not be imagined that the rare monuments of the past constitute the only wealth of the collection. The library is rich also in modern treasures.* Gifts of important works from government departments, no less than valuable donations and bequests of individuals of opulence and culture, are constantly adding to the stores of the institution. Even of English benefactors it has not a few.

The widely known firm of Mame, of Tours, also set an excellent example by presenting many of their important publications to the library, which in the space of twenty years has nearly doubled itself.

In conformity with the *ordonnance du roi* of 22nd February, 1839,† which laid down provisions for the regulation of the French

* Such works as the following may be instanced :—"Catacombes de Rome," par Ferret, &c.; "Les Archives des Monuments Historiques;" "Les Cartes d'Etat-major;" "Musée des Archives Départementales;" "Annales Scientifiques de l'Ecole Normale." Among particular collections, presented to the library, the following are particularly worthy of mention :—The collection Salmon, of 155 volumes relating to the history of Touraine, &c.; the collection given by Mme. Vve. Lambron de Lignim, being her husband's collection of 2,000 volumes, manuscript and printed, also upon the local history. Then there is a beautifully bound collection of books on ornithology, bequeathed to the institution in 1863, among which are a fine Buffon, from the royal press, and Audubon's "Birds of America." A journalist's library, that of M. A. Ornant, of over 4,000 volumes upon political and literary subjects. The collection formed by the Marquis de la Ferté-Sénectère, being plays, &c., in various Italian dialects. The following recent acquisitions, purchased by the town council, will give an idea of the employment of the sums voted by that body :—1,592 volumes of local history, &c.; Viollet-le-Duc's "Dictionnaire du Mobilier;" "Glossaire de St. Palaye;" Larousse's "Dictionnaire Universel du XIX^{e} siècle." The last-named purchase is one which seems to me especially appropriate for small libraries, which upon many subjects may contain no other information than that to be found in such a repertory.

† The *ordonnance* was published at length in the *Moniteur Officiel*, of Feb. 24, 1839. This interesting document, the outcome of successive commissions, is a gentle attempt to introduce a system of common regulations for the French libraries. While aiming at reform and economy, justice and consideration were shown to those already in office, and in this regard its provisions contrast very favourably with recent measures in the same department nearer home.

public libraries, the library has been placed under a committee of eight members, nominated by the Minister of Public Instruction, presidèd over by the Maire, and meeting at least once a month to decide upon purchases and exchanges, and the employment of the funds it may vote for acquisition, compilation of catalogues, &c. A secretary of the committee is chosen from one of its members every year, and is re-eligible. Minutes are kept of each meeting, and are signed by the president, the secretary, and the conservateur. An account of the acquisitions has to be sent annually to the Minister of Public Instruction, to be added to the "Grand Livre des Bibliothèques de France."

The conservateur, as well as his assistants, is nominated by the Maire, before whom he has to submit, before each 1st of March, the budget for the following year. Among his numerous duties may be mentioned that of seeing that every article becoming the property of the library is immediately stamped. He is empowered to expel readers who do not conform to the rules, or who annoy or disturb other readers.

The library, in accordance with French custom, is closed from August 15 to October 15, and for a fortnight at Easter, and during these periods the books are dusted. Ordinarily, the library is open from noon to four in the afternoon, except on Sundays and Feasts. The reading-room on the ground floor offers roomy accommodation for thirty workers, and is furnished with books of reference, maps, magazines, and local periodicals. Books, except those placed in the reading-room, are asked for on small tickets, on which the applicant is enjoined to write his name, profession, and address, in addition to the title of the work desired. In a daily register are entered the names of all books thus communicated, and to whom. By article 24 of the *règlement*, romances and works on erotic subjects are communicated only to adults. The real force of this rule, it is hardly necessary to remark, depends upon the construction put on it by the conservateur or committee. The librarian may perhaps find such a rule useful to fall back upon should his reading-room become crowded. Unbound parts of works, unless scientific works, are not communicated to readers. No more than five works are to be given to a reader at one time. Copying or note-taking from costly illustrated works is to be done only in pencil. Tracings are allowed only in the case of geographical works. Measuring with compasses is forbidden. In considering this rule, which may appear to be of almost unduly restrictive tendency, it must be remembered that much of the drawing done in a provincial library is more or less a pastime, and does not mean the work accomplished in large central libraries. Why this is so is not, perhaps, obvious. One reason may be that a provincial library is necessarily more quiet and agreeable than a busy metropolitan reading-room. It, on the other hand, should not be forgotten that a book can only accomplish its mission by being

used, and it seems scarcely advisable to forbid the use of drawing instruments in trained and careful hands.

The copying of manuscript illumination is allowed when the original is protected by glass. This wise precaution is too often sadly neglected in many libraries. No manuscript may be copied, printed, or published without the authorisation of the Municipal Council, which will consider applications to this end addressed to the Maire. The editor of any work thus published engages to give two copies to the library, exclusive of the ordinary copyright obligation.

As to loan at home, men of science or of letters, and writers engaged upon literary and scientific works, residing at Tours, may, upon the authorisation of the Maire, enjoy the use of books in their dwellings. The applicant accompanies his request by mention of the works he has published, or is about to publish, and the Maire considers his application in consultation with the committee. Neither the more valuable works, especially manuscripts, nor dictionaries, nor periodical publications, nor books with folding plates, are allowed out. In looking at this rule, we must realise the difference in character between a French provincial library, which often contains hundreds of unique treasures, and one of our own free libraries, in which most of the collection is, I believe, such as love or money can replace when necessary. In ordinary cases the number of books lent out is limited to one manuscript or two printed volumes. A month is the maximum time allowed for the use of books lent out, but the conservateur may require their return at any time, and any one refusing compliance is liable to be erased from the list of persons authorised to borrow out. The library staff is equally subject with the public to the rules regulating out-loans. Inspection of the library is allowed under the conduct of the conservateur, and at hours when the library is not open to readers.

In 1875 it was decided by the Municipal Council to open the library every evening from the 1st of November to the 1st of May, except on Sundays and Festivals, and a separate part of the building was set apart for this purpose. The more precious manuscripts and printed books are not communicated in the evening, but a special register of works for evening service is kept. Evening readers desiring any book not on this register should make a written request for it on the previous day, it being strictly forbidden to take a light of any kind into the other parts of the library.

As to the catalogue of additions, which generally amount to about 1,000 volumes a-year, a book is kept in which new arrivals are entered and numbered as they are received, and the volumes themselves are kept in a separate room in the same order. At the expiration of every ten years these books are inscribed in alphabetical and systematic order respectively, in two volumes, which form supplements to the main catalogue, and are placed at the disposal of readers.

In conclusion, I should not omit to express my thanks to M. Dorange, the worthy conservateur, to whose publications or personal communications I am entirely indebted for the materials of the present paper. Nor should I forget to mention that, as far as I may judge, his catalogue of the manuscripts is a high testimony alike to his own diligent care for his charge, to the value and importance of the library, and to the liberality and enlightenment of the Maire and Municipal Council of Tours.

DISCUSSION.—The CHAIRMAN said that this was a very interesting paper, but he had hoped to hear that the Library possessed some MSS. of Alcuin, who was a very prolific writer.—Mr. TEDDER was able to add a few items from a return kindly furnished by M. Dorange, in reply to a circular asking for information respecting French libraries. Theology and history form the chief features, as the library owes many accessions to the convents and religious houses broken up at the time of the Revolution. The library is also rich in MSS., incunabula, heraldry, and natural history formerly belonging to the Prince of Essling (Masséna), as well as in works connected with the province of Touraine, and in rarities of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, finely bound by Derôme, Capet, &c. The present number of printed books is 50,000 vols., and 2,000 MSS., and the average yearly increment is 500 vols.; but there are frequent extensive donations from private persons. About 15,000 vols. are annually consulted, and the number of readers is about 50 each day. There are no conditions of admission, and no limit of age. The library has no endowment, but the Government presents from time to time the large works of scientific travel issued under its auspices, and the municipal council of Tours votes each year 9,200 fr. (£368), from which the salaries of the librarian (£120) and sub-librarian (£80) are paid. The catalogue of printed books extends to 20 vols., in manuscript. The MSS. have been catalogued by the accomplished librarian, in that valuable series of French departmental libraries published at the expense of the Government. There is, besides, a special catalogue of incunabula, of bibliographical rarities, and the Touraine collection. A fine fifteenth-century wooden press holds 400 of the MSS., and a cabinet containing the MSS., with miniatures, includes a portion of the choice library of M. de Choiseul, the well-known bibliophile and disgraced minister of Louis XIV.—After some further discussion, in which Messrs. NICHOLSON, STEVENS and WELCH took part, a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Mr. WILSON for his paper.

The following new bye-law was proposed :—

"That an institution subscribing to the association shall, for each half guinea annually subscribed, be entitled to send one representative to the meetings of the association, provided that any representative so nominated who shall not be engaged in library administration shall have no right of voting unless proposed and elected in the usual way."

The discussion of this bye-law was adjourned until the next monthly meeting.

The following circular has been issued by the Council, in accordance with a resolution of the last annual meeting:—

"LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM,
"London, 1*st June*, 1881.

"SIR,—At the last annual meeting (held at Edinburgh) of the Library Association of the United Kingdom, an association which numbers among its members the heads of nearly all the important libraries in the country, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

"'That it be an instruction to the Council to send to all bookbinders in the "Bookbinders' Trade Directory" a circular letter containing such inquiries as it may be desirable to make, and inviting answers, suggestions, and scales of prices; and that the results be laid before the association at its next yearly meeting, together with such samples of binding as the Council may think fit to obtain.'

"In pursuance of this resolution, the Council desire us to send you the appended list of questions, and would feel greatly obliged by any answers with which you may favour them. They feel that in numerous important points in relation to binding there is a want of settled opinion among librarians, and that on such points the experience of bookbinders is likely to be most valuable. And the result of any co-operation which the bookbinders are willing to accord to the librarians will, they feel, tend to promote a demand for good binding which will be advantageous to those engaged in the binding trade.

"They will be glad if any answers which you may give are numbered in correspondence with the questions, and they will be further happy to receive any other information or suggestions which you may think useful.

"Your obedient servants,

(Signed) "ERNEST C. THOMAS,
"13, South Square, Gray's Inn, W.C.
"CHARLES WELCH,
"Corporation Library, Guildhall, E.C."

1. Is it your opinion that the *best* (*a*) moroccos, (*b*) calfs, (*c*) vellums now used are less durable than the best leathers which formerly bore the same names?
2. If so, at about what dates do you consider the degeneration of such leathers began?
3. To what causes would you attribute it?
4. Are you willing to state your experience of injurious and uninjurious methods of colouring leather?
5. Have you any experience as to the leathers which offer respectively the most and the least resistance to (*a*) wear and tear, (*b*) damp, (*c*) heat, (*d*) gas, if gas does not act simply as a generator of heated air?
6. What is your experience of imitation leathers (the particular kinds being named)?
7. Can you report any new or unusual binding materials?
8. Or of rebacking, repairing, and renovating old bindings? Have you any suggestions to offer?
9. What experience have you of the re-sewing of wire-sewn books?
10. Have you any novelties in binding to recommend or suggest?
11. Are you willing (*a*) to state your prices for binding according to the appended specification; (*b*) to allow your name and address to be published by the Council as stating such prices; (*c*) to furnish, if desired, samples of books so bound, and at such prices, for exhibition at the next annual meeting of the Library Association, to be held in London in September next; (*d*) to furnish, if desired, for exhibition at the same time, any other specimens of binding, with prices affixed, and if so, of what kind?

SPECIFICATION.

The books to be sewn all along, with the first and last sheets overcast, on strong cords, the slips to be drawn in all along, and the backs made close (half flexible). Half bound, with corners of same materials as shown in the scale.

Smooth cloth sides, edges cut, sprinkled, and burnished; or, if so directed, top edge only cut, &c., the others trimmed and left with proof. End papers to be of stout Cobb's paper, with cloth joints in quarto and folio books. Lettered with author, short title, and date—the lettering done by type if desired. Gilt fillets, but no other tooling.

All materials of best quality, and the work done carefully. No charge for extra thickness, unless the thickness, measured inside the boards, is more than one-third the width of the book. No charge for plates and folding maps, if less than ten in number and not mounted. Two-page plates to be guarded so as to open up flat.

Prices for binding, as above, per volume, for demy 12mo, crown 8vo, demy 8vo, royal 8vo, imperial 8vo, crown 4to, demy 4to, royal 4to, imperial 4to, crown folio, demy folio, royal folio, and imperial folio, in—1, Morocco, (*a*) Levant (French), (*b*) Cape, or second quality morocco; 2, Calf; 3, Persian; 4, Vellum; 5, Parchment; 6, Roan; 7, Basil; 8, Cloth; 9, Brown or slate buckram; 10, Difference (if any) for full binding *in buckram;* 11, Price for resewing and casing.

LIBRARY NOTES.

ALDERSHOT.—In accordance with Her Majesty's commands, transmitted through the Horse Guards to the general officer commanding at the camp, the Victoria Soldiers' Library, which is kept up at the Queen's expense, for the use of the troops at the Aldershot station, is in future to be managed by a permanent committee consisting of Colonel Gossett, Royal Engineers, as president; Lieut.-Col. Hayward, 45th Regiment, and Capt. Knollys, Brigade Major, Royal Artillery, as members.

BRITISH MUSEUM.—A Parliamentary return, lately issued, gives the total number of persons admitted to view the general collections (exclusive of readers) in 1880, as 655,688. To the reading-room there were 133,842 visitors, which, added to the numbers studying maps, manuscripts, sculpture, coins, medals, gold ornaments, the gem-room, natural history, and print, made up a total of 839,374 students and searchers. With a view to expediting the service of the reading-room, by bringing in close connection to it books often required by readers, the galleries in the room itself will receive a new selection of books, to consist of additional works of reference, and generally such books as have been found to be most often asked for by students. This re-arrangement has been already fairly commenced.

ROME.—Conte Ugo Balzani has resigned the office of Keeper of the MSS. in the Vittorio Emmanuele Library.

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BIBLIOTHECA
JUL 1881
BODLEIANA

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

THE Monthly Meetings for August and September have been suspended by the Council.

JULY MONTHLY MEETING.

THE ninth Monthly Meeting of the fourth year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Friday, July 1, 1881, at 8 p.m., Mr. H. R. TEDDER in the Chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Chairman announced the deaths of Mr. T. Watson (sub-librarian of the Obstetrical Society) and Mr. S. A. Hart (librarian of the Royal Academy), and remarked that Mr. Hart was one of the founders of the Association, having been among those who came to the preliminary meeting of the Organizing Committee of the London Conference of 1877. Mr. Hart attended the sittings of the Conference with great regularity and continued to take an interest in the affairs of the Association, and always regretted his inability to join in the Oxford, Manchester, and Edinburgh Meetings. The deceased artist, who had a most extensive acquaintance with the literature and biography of the fine arts, was a very energetic official, and it is entirely owing to his exertions that the Library of the Royal Academy owes its present efficient state. The Chairman then called on Mr. G. R. Humphery to read his paper

ON WORKMEN'S, OR FACTORY, LIBRARIES.

Mr. HUMPHERY said: At the outset, permit me to say that in this paper I do not purpose discussing the main obstacle to the use of books by the working classes, or to the general success of all movements on their behalf. I am not here to relate the terrible and interminable struggle that has been going on for years, between the moralist and philanthropist on the one side, and the drink traffic and its supporters on the other. On some other and more fitting opportunity I shall be only too pleased to point these out

(if indeed they require pointing out), but on the present occasion I must only relate what I know of the establishment and maintenance of these libraries.

History.—The history of Factory Libraries can be very shortly told. The earliest of which I can find any trace is that of Messrs. J. Broadwood and Sons, founded 1847; then follow those of Messrs. J. Penn and Sons, 1857; Messrs. Huntley and Palmer, about the same date; Messrs. Fredk. Braby and Co., 1870; and Messrs. Tangye Bros., 1877. Five in all. In each case the return of the number of books lent to read has been most satisfactory, showing that the workpeople will use the books if they have the opportunity. In 1847 there appears to have been "a society, the object of which was to introduce libraries into manufactories, to further the social and moral improvement of workmen, imposing one condition only: that no books of a sectarian or demoralising tendency should be afterwards admitted." Unfortunately, this organisation has ceased to exist, and one of its supporters (whose name is associated with most good works in this country), the Earl of Shaftesbury, has only "some recollection of the movement, but no documents relating to it."

Formation.—Find a suitable man for secretary and librarian (I fear you will be some time finding one with the transcendent attainments required by F. A. Ebert), one with fair education, who has a love of books and book readers; having some ideas of organisation and of order. Not bigoted, self-willed, or self-righteous; but liberal in regard to the views and opinions of others, and as even-tempered as possible. One who holds to the success of his undertaking before his personal success, and who will give his time at least (if not some of his money), ungrudgingly and continuously, that the movement may be successful. Find such a man, or one as near to him as you can, and get him to select a few associates to act as a committee. In making this selection avoid as much as possible men who only put in an appearance at annual meetings, and then only to require reserved seats, and more attention to themselves and their wives than all the rest of the company together. Rather select men who are prepared to work in any office, from doorkeeper to chairman of a meeting. Avoid great talkers; they are proverbially and practically little workers. The committee should not be large, and each individual should have his special work.

Get the heads of the firm to be active presidents and vice-presidents, and, if possible, interest their wives and daughters in the work, by asking them to collect money and unused books.

Having collected or purchased a few books (say 50 to 100), place them in a cupboard. Register each book as it is obtained, in a book giving the following particulars. Date, number (consecutively from No. 1), title, how obtained, and a column for remarks.

Here let me appeal to the managers of large and prosperous libraries to grant their surplus books in small parcels to factories for the formation of such libraries; always providing that there are some authorities to take charge of the same and report on their

use. In fact, every library of this kind should issue an annual report and statement of accounts, not only to show its supporters what they are contributing to, but to insure the active and persistent perseverance of the officers.

Cataloguing.—An original catalogue should be kept, in which all books should be posted from the register previously mentioned, and before the books are placed on the shelves of the cupboard. This catalogue, from which all others, printed or otherwise, are made, should be as plain and simple as possible. The classification must be in no wise complicated, in order that the books may be easily found. The following classification of subjects has worked well in the case of Messrs. Fredk. Braby and Co.'s library:—1. Sacred and Religious Writings, Lectures, &c.; 2. Biography; 3. History, Narrative, Descriptive, &c.: 4. Scientific, Manufactures, and Educational Works; 5. Fiction, Romance, Tales, &c.; 6. Miscellaneous; 7. Poetical and Dramatic; 8. Books in Foreign Languages. Alphabetical order is the best, but the growth of the library being, as a rule, continuous, it is difficult to keep up this order, and the catalogue must either be repeatedly revised and reprinted, or the numerical order must be used, as is done in the case of Messrs. Fredk. Braby and Co.'s library. Of course, if the funds will admit, you can have a catalogue of subjects, or of authors, or both, alphabetically arranged, with additions and improvements; but the above is clear and cheap, and in most cases will be quite sufficient. Having collected, say, 100 volumes, appoint a time to commence the issue of books. Let the librarian be at his post at the hour appointed. The readers must not have the least possible excuse. If the work asked for cannot be supplied, enter it in a "Bespoke Book;" first, that it may be given to the reader early; and secondly, that it may guide the purchases. Register the issues and returns in a book, under the following heads; they are simple and easily understood:—

REGISTER OF BOOKS LENT TO READ, &c.

Date when Issued, 188 .	Names of Members.	Number.	Condition.	When Returned.	Remarks.

The addition of the names will give the total of the books issued.

Subscription.—I shall be asked at least two questions under this head. First, Are subscriptions necessary? Secondly, Is it wise to charge any subscriptions? To each I answer, Yes! Money will be required to purchase new books, repair, rebind, and replace old ones. Many charges, especially at the commencement, will be necessary for account books, postage, stationery, &c. This will answer the first question; and the second I will try to make as clear. Men like to feel that they are members, and a small subscription of, say, one penny per week, or one shilling per quarter, will have that effect. They will feel they are part of the move-

ment or institution. It has also the effect of keeping up what is called (sometimes very falsely) *independence*. The men consider they are not accepting charity, in the sense of receiving alms. They come and change their books as a right; and thus the primary object is attained, viz., the lending of books to read.

Purchase of Books.—Books should be purchased by the principal librarian and secretary, with the sanction of a small sub-committee, who must really interest themselves in the work. Great care must be taken to suit the readers. Books should be just above their taste, so as to elevate; never below, so as to debase. Neither must the taste of the librarian or committee be the guide, but the readers'. The works should be attractive and delightful, conveying information in a readable form. I am fully alive to the difficulties of this portion of the work, but it is one in which there is more talked of than actual difficulty. The first and greatest task is to get the workmen to read some book; that accomplished, a little judicious advice from the librarian will do much to direct the course of reading. The subject of novels and novel reading will be sure to suggest itself; it will be sufficient to say, that while novel reading which takes the place of study is strongly to be deprecated, it must always be borne in mind that novel readers are seldom, if ever, taken from the student class, and it is better for a man to read a novel than not read at all. Lastly, under this head, let me add the following extract from a recently-published newspaper article:* "Thackeray, in one of his lectures, records that Dr. Smollett says: 'Fiction carries a greater amount of truth in solution than the volume that purports to be all true.' In any tale penned by an able author, the same writer declares, in 'Vanity Fair,' he gets 'the expression of the life of the time, of the manners, the movements, the dress, the pleasures, the laughter, the ridicules of society;" and he asks whether the heaviest historian can do more than this. A noted critic has said, "It requires training and exact observation to discriminate between the true and false in art." Recognizing this, I think it can be well left, like water, to find its level, and the readers to show by their demands the books that suit them best.

My object on this occasion being to plead for the establishment of these libraries pure and simple, I shall only mention the numerous good works that will grow out of their organization, as classes, lectures, entertainments, soirées, clubs, reciprocal meetings of employers and employed, at least at annual gatherings; and there is one opportunity which must be most fully taken advantage of—our Saturday half-holidays. Visits should be organized and conducted to every building that will afford the least instruction, or incite the workmen to inquire. Every object that will excite curiosity and lead to research should be sought out and seen. I have great pleasure in bearing my testimony that the great and good men with which our country abounds are ever ready to assist, even to the extent of allowing their private residences to be

* *Daily Chronicle*, Feb. 10, 1881.

visited; and our public men only want an appreciative audience and they will place their valuable services at the disposal of any organization, notwithstanding the excessive claims on their time. If space permitted I could give a list of those noblemen and gentlemen who have already assisted in this work.

Lastly, as to the founders of these institutions, their satisfaction will be great. Everyone knows how uncertain are all earthly friends. Even those who are true, and they are not very plentiful, are apt to be removed by distance or death. If this be true of the world generally, it is specially so in the case of the working classes. Their friends are not so numerous as they should be; sometimes from the working men themselves mistaking the objects, aims, or means of their friends; at other times through jealousy, which is to be deplored; or envy, which is to be deprecated. Still, after making all these allowances and deductions, the friends of the working classes are not so extensive a body but that some additions could well be made. Now here are the opportunity and the means. Give the working men friends they cannot doubt, friends who care not how they are treated. Call upon them when they like and for what they please, they will be their friends still: "The same yesterday, to-day, and for ever." Friends of whom they can ask advice, and with whom they can take counsel. No doubt about them; turn over the pages and fresh thoughts appear. No sulky moments, no tiffs for real or imaginary slights. The satisfaction of giving such friends to the working classes is worthy of the greatest philanthropist. Allow me to draw a picture of humble life. Small and crowded apartments; the father has just returned from work and taken his tea; the children are asleep; the mother is at needlework, in order that the little ones may go tidy to school on the morrow. The father has brought a book from the Workman's Library. He reads aloud; it is one of those attractive novels of everyday life, "Poor Humanity." Both are interested; night after night during the winter this is repeated. The husband is a slow reader, and the wife not always well enough to follow the narrative, but she does not wish to miss a chapter. The three volumes are read, and the conclusion reached. It is not what they expected; but is life what we expect? They discuss the merits of the book, and admire certain characters. The author and the Workman's Library have set up in these good people's minds some principles of right and wrong, a standard to which they shall bring up their children. This picture is drawn from life, not fiction, but fact rather understated, and I think it is a strong plea why you should commence, support, and help to maintain such institutions.

In conclusion, I beg to append a tabulated return of all such libraries whose existence I have been able to trace, to thank the librarians in each case for the particulars furnished, and to return to you my most sincere thanks for listening to my humble pleadings for a "cause I love so well."

APPENDIX *A.* RETURN OF WORKMEN'S LIBRARIES.

No.	Names of Firms.	Addresses.	Date of Establishment.	Number of Books in Library.	Number lent to read 1860.	Subscription.	Remarks.
1	J. Broadwood and Sons	Westminster	1847	5,500	4,929	1*d.* ℔ week	Reading Rm.
2	J. Penn and Son	Greenwich	1857	2,100	4,680	1*d.* ,, Men ½*d.* ,, Boys	Reading Rm.
3	Huntley & Palmer	Reading	,,	1,500	8,100	½*d.* ,,	Reading Rm.
4	F. Braby and Co.	Deptford and London.	1870	1,258	973	1*d.* ,,	
5	Tangye Brothers	Birmingham	1877	600	1,200	½*d.* ,,	

APPENDIX *B.* PURCHASE OF BOOKS.

Religious Tract Society offer books at half prices.
Pure Literature Society offer books at half prices, through a Subscriber.
Book Society makes liberal offers.
Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's Surplus Catalogue Books are very cheap, and offer perhaps the best means of obtaining good books at small cost.
The ordinary book-stall must not be despised.

APPENDIX *C.* RULES FOR LENDING BOOKS.

(To be placed inside each book.)

Name of Library.
This book is purchased by the Library Fund.
This book is kindly presented by _____

Conditions on which it is lent to read:

1. That it be kept clean, and not in any way damaged.
2. All damage must be made good by the borrower.
3. A fine of One Penny per week will be enforced if this book is not returned within seven days after it is bespoke.

No._____ _____*Hon. Secretary.*

DISCUSSION.—Mr. NICHOLSON said that though the subscription was small, yet the workmen paid more than they would have to pay in rates if the Public Libraries Acts were adopted.—Mr. FROST remarked that the Workman's Library had the advantage that a man received his book as he left work, and did not have to go home and then go out again for it.—In reply to questions, Mr. HUMPHERY said that subscribers were only charged when they had books. The demand was greatest from Christmas till the end of March.—The CHAIRMAN considered that the results were very creditable, both to the men and to their employers. The paper contained some interesting practical remarks, especially as to the purchase of books, for no more foolish plan could be imagined than that adopted in most libraries, where the books are chosen by a committee, and the librarian is not consulted at all.—A unanimous vote of thanks was passed to Mr. HUMPHERY for his paper.

Among the donations was the Library Catalogue of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, presented by Mr. W. R. Browne, the Secretary.

The discussion of the proposed new bye-law was adjourned.

OUR esteemed President, the Rev. Henry Octavius Coxe, Bodley's Librarian, died at Oxford on Friday, July 8th, in the 70th year of

his age. Mr. Coxe was born in the year 1811, and educated at Westminster School and Worcester College, Oxford. He entered the MS. department of the British Museum in 1833, and continued his work there until 1838, when he became one of the sub-librarians of the Bodleian library. He succeeded the late Dr. Bandinel as head librarian in 1860. Besides having an extensive knowledge of bibliography, he was one of the ablest palæographers of the day. He was sent out by Sir G. C. Lewis, on the part of the Government, to inspect the libraries in the monasteries of the Levant, and his report on the Greek manuscripts yet remaining there, finally settled the value and character of the actual remains in the districts visited by him. He was the author and editor of many works bearing on his own department, and also of various catalogues—among them those of the MSS. of the college libraries, the Greek MSS. in the Bodleian, and of the Laud and Canonici collections. Many other catalogues were edited under his superintendence, but the greatest work achieved under his direction has been the new catalogue of the Bodleian library, which extends to upwards of 720 volumes. Mr. Coxe was one of the Vice-Presidents of the Conference of Librarians of 1877, and, on the foundation of this Association, he was elected one of its Vice-Presidents. He presided at the Meeting at Oxford, in 1878, and took an active part in its proceedings, and at the Annual Meeting at Manchester, in 1879, was elected President on the retirement of Mr. Winter Jones. At a Meeting of the Council held on the 8th inst., it was resolved "That the Council hear with deep regret of the heavy loss which the Association has sustained by the death of its distinguished President, Bodley's Librarian."

LIBRARY NOTES.

GLASGOW.—MITCHELL LIBRARY.—The sub-committee appointed to consider the question of printing a catalogue of the books in the library, report in favour of a dictionary catalogue of authors and subjects in one alphabet. A specimen is appended to their report, in which subjects are distinguished by difference of type, and cross-references given under each principal subject-heading to the minor headings in its own class. The size notation adopted is Mr. Madeley's demy book scale.

GLASGOW.—STIRLING'S LIBRARY.—During the course of the night of Saturday, 25th June, Stirling's Library, at 48, Miller Street, was broken into. None of the books, so far as can be seen, have been interfered with. It is not known what could have tempted the depredators to enter such a place as a library, for there is little likelihood in such a place of any great plunder in the way of money, and it could hardly be assumed to be a search after knowledge.

NOTTINGHAM.—The New University College Buildings were opened on the 30th June, by Prince Leopold. One wing of the building is appropriated to the Free Library. The Lending Library and Reading-room upon the ground floor is 88 feet long, by 34 feet wide, throughout. The furniture consists of a counter running the

whole length of the room, an indicator 40 feet in length, on Mr. Cotgreave's system, adapted to the requirements of the library by Mr. Briscoe, the Librarian; two assistants' desks, a pedestal table, and ten other tables, each accommodating ten persons, while a small lift at the end of the room communicates with the unpacking rooms in the basement, and the reference department on the first floor. The Reference Library is on the upper floor, with a ladies' Reading-room divided from it by a screen 9 feet 6 inches high, communicating by a book door arranged so that application can be made for books without the necessity of any one either entering or leaving the room. Lavatories are provided with a hot and cold water supply.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—This borough has recently adopted the Free Libraries Acts, and the Corporation has appointed a Committee for carrying it into effect. The population of the district is about 20,000, and the income from the rate will amount to about £320, which it will be attempted to supplement by subscriptions. The Committee is now engaged in looking out for premises, and will be glad to receive applications from gentlemen who desire the post of Librarian. Such applications, stating the required salary, may be sent to F. Gould, Esq., Highfield, Kingston-on-Thames.

RICHMOND.—The Free Public Library, on the Little Green, Richmond, was opened on Saturday, 18th June, by the Countess Russell. The Free Public Libraries Act was adopted in Richmond on the 18th March, 1879, by a majority of 1,140 against 618 votes of ratepayers. The library rate of a penny in the pound, supplemented by the generous subscriptions and book donations of friends, enabled the committee to provide 7,100 volumes in an elegant, well-lighted and neatly-appointed new building, fitted with all the most approved library appliances. The members of the Russell family, Mr. Gladstone, the Duke of Buccleuch, Sir Trevor Lawrence and Sir Erskine May were among the donors of books and money, also Cardinal Newman, Dean Stanley and Mr. Tennyson. With the exception of Westminster no other district within the metropolitan area possesses a free public library supported by the rates under the Free Libraries Acts, although the Richmond library is about the hundredth opened under the Acts in the United Kingdom. Mr. Plunkett moved, and the Mayor of Kingston (Mr. Alderman Gould) seconded, a vote of thanks to Lady Russell for her attendance, and Mr. Trevor, on behalf of the committee, presented her ladyship with an illuminated address acknowledging her aid in the establishment of the library. A bust of Earl Russell has been presented to the library. The Librarian appointed is Mr. A. Cotgreave, the inventor of the well-known library indicator. The library has been thoroughly successful, and has lent out an average of 250 volumes a day to about the same number of persons.

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MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

THE Fourth Annual Meeting of the Association will be held at Gray's Inn Hall, on the 13th, 14th, 15th, and probably the 16th, September, under the presidency of Mr. J. A. RUSSELL, Q.C., Master of Gray's Inn Library.

The arrangements for the meeting are still in progress, and include visits to Stationers' Hall, where the Registers and plate will be open to the inspection of Members, to the Libraries and Halls of the Inns of Court, and to the Cathedral Library of St. Paul's.

Mr. Welch has intimated to the Council his intention not to offer himself for re-election as Secretary at the Annual Meeting, but we believe that he will, as a private member, continue to take an active part in the work of the Association.

The Treasurer requests that those members who have not paid their subscriptions for the present year will do so at once, that the amount may be duly entered in the forthcoming balance sheet. Post-Office Orders to be made payable to Mr. R. Harrison, of the London Library, at the St. James's Street Post Office, S.W.

The following circular, issued by direction of the Council, has been sent to each member:—

LONDON, 8*th July*, 1881.

DEAR SIR,—The Library Association, which has met in Oxford, Manchester, and Edinburgh since it was founded in London in 1877, will hold its Fourth Annual Meeting in London on the 13th, 14th, 15th and (probably) the 16th of September next. The sittings will be held in the Hall of Gray's Inn, which, together with the Pension Room and Library, has been very kindly placed at our disposal by the Treasurer and Benchers of the Honourable Society.

Meeting in an Inn of Court, it will be natural for us to devote some special attention to legal libraries; and it is hoped that our members may have an opportunity of inspecting the libraries of the Inner and Middle Temple, of Lincoln's Inn, and of the Incorporated Law Society. The whole question of legislation for Free Public Libraries will doubtless occupy a good deal of our time and attention. The Cataloguing Rules, which were adjourned from the Edinburgh Meeting, may be finally settled; and a Report on the Training of

Library Assistants is also to be expected. The results of the inquiry directed by the Edinburgh Meeting into the subject of Binding will probably be laid before this Meeting.

This necessary business may leave less room for papers than the meetings have hitherto had to dispose of, and it is therefore all the more necessary that offers of papers should be received at once.

We shall be much obliged by an early intimation of your intention to be present. If you are not yet a member of the Association, we shall be glad to receive your name. The year's subscription (10*s.* 6*d.*), covering this Meeting, should be sent to the Treasurer, Mr. ROBERT HARRISON, London Library, 12, St. James's Square, S.W.

We are, dear Sir, yours faithfully,
ERNEST C. THOMAS,
2, South Square, Gray's Inn, W.C.
CHARLES WELCH,
Corporation Library, Guildhall, E.C.

Members who intend to be present and who have not yet replied to the above circular are requested to do so without delay, as the information will greatly assist in making arrangements for the meeting.

Notice has been received of the following motions to be proposed at the Annual Meeting by Mr. E. B. Nicholson:—

"That this Association is in favour of the general principle of opening public libraries, museums, and other galleries for some part, at least, of every Sunday; though particular local circumstances may sometimes render the present application of this principle useless or undesirable."

"That the provisions of Sir John Lubbock's Free Libraries Bill, as proposed to be amended by the mover, be discussed and voted on *seriatim* by the meeting."

Mr. T. W. Newton, Assistant Librarian, Royal School of Mines, and Mr. Daniel Williams, Dorman's Library, St. Leonard's, have lately become members of the Association.

COMMITTEE ON THE TRAINING OF LIBRARY ASSISTANTS.

THE following report has been presented to the Council by the Special Committee, and will be formally presented to the Association for acceptance at the annual meeting:—

REPORT.

At the annual meeting of the Association, held at Edinburgh last year, the following resolution was unanimously passed:—

> "That it is desirable that the Council of this Association should consider how Library Assistants may best be aided in their training in the general principles of their profession."

In pursuance of this instruction, Messrs. Garnett, Harrison, Nicholson, Tedder, and the Secretaries, were appointed by you a Committee to consider the subject, and they have now the honour to present their report.

Your Committee are strongly of opinion that the question of the training of Library Assistants may be made an extremely useful feature of the practical work of the Association, and, after due deliberation, have come to the conclusion that this may best be served by providing for the examination of candidates and the granting of certificates of proficiency. This will naturally involve some direction as regards special studies and the choice of books to be read, with, perhaps, the arrangement of courses of lectures on matters connected with Bibliography and Librarianship.

Your Committee therefore recommend the following plan of examination:—

EXAMINATION BEFORE APPOINTMENT.

Preliminary Examination.—This should consist chiefly in the subjects of a sound English education. Special attention should, however, be paid to the subject of English Literature, and proficiency in the elements of one or more Classical or Modern Languages should be specially indorsed upon the certificate, one language to be necessary.

Suggested subjects of this Examination are—

1. Arithmetic.
2. English Grammar and Composition.
3. English History.
4. Geography.
5. English Literature.

Special attention will be given to writing and spelling.

EXAMINATIONS AFTER APPOINTMENT.

A Second-class Certificate will be awarded to any Librarian or Assistant who shall have been engaged in Library work for not less than one year, and shall pass a satisfactory examination in the following subjects:—

1. English Literature, especially of the last hundred years.
2. Some one other European Literature.
3. Principles of the Classification of the Sciences.
4. Elements of Bibliography, including Cataloguing.
5. Library Management.

A cataloguing knowledge of at least two languages besides English to be necessary for a certificate.

A First-class Certificate will be given, after a satisfactory examination, to a Librarian or Assistant of at least two years' experience, for an advanced knowledge of the subjects last mentioned, with the addition of—

6. General Literary History.

A cataloguing knowledge of at least three languages will be necessary for the higher certificate; an acquaintance with any others may be specially indorsed. Proficiency in special subjects offered by the candidate (not more than two being offered) will also be specially indorsed.

It is suggested that for the present the Council should undertake to examine candidates who have not been actually engaged as Library Assistants.

The practical carrying out of this scheme of examination and the appointment of examiners will naturally devolve upon the Council.

In conclusion, the Committee recommend to the Council the desirability of admitting Library Assistants to some of the advantages of membership, at a nominal or considerably reduced subscription.

August 11, 1881.

LIBRARY NOTES.

AYR.—The Committee of the Ayr Public Library are collecting information regarding the working of the Public Libraries Act in places where it has been adopted, with the view of bringing the matter before the inhabitants of this town.

NEWARK.—At a meeting of the Town Council of Newark, on the 4th inst., the Mayor announced that he had received a letter from Mr. Gilstrop, of Firnham Park, Bury St. Edmunds, offering to build and present to Newark, his native town, a free public library. The donor proposes to vest it in the corporation under the Free Libraries Act, and will hand it over furnished and stocked with books, and endowed for the maintenance of a custodian, stipulating only that it shall be so managed as "to give the greatest benefit to the greatest number," and desiring that no political or religious objects of a party or sectarian character should be promoted. By a unanimous vote the gratitude of the Council was expressed in a suitable resolution. A small committee was nominated to confer with Mr. Gilstrop, and it was understood that plans would shortly be ready and the building commenced without delay.

QUERY.

Can anyone inform me if the following sermon has been printed? "One of a thousand, or a testimoniall given of that faythfull man who feared God above many; delivered in a funeral sermon preached at St. Buttolp's Without Bishops-gate, London, Sept. 3, 1650, for the religious and charitable Knight Sir Paul Pindar of blessed memory; by Nehemiah Rogers, the then lawfull, though sequestred, Incumbent of that place. Eccles. vii. 27, 28. Ecclus. xliv. 14, 15. Post funera virtus." It is a small quarto MS. of fourteen leaves bound up at the end of a volume of obituary sermons belonging to the library of the Religious Tract Society. The preface is signed by the author's son, and it appears from a note in the same hand that its publication was refused by the author's "stationer" on account of two words in the preface, "tyranny" and "rebellion," which were "too hard for his Presbyterian stomach to concoct."

C. W.

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MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

The programme of the Annual Meeting is not yet finally settled. The following will probably be the order of proceedings :—

Tuesday, Sept. 13, 9.45 for 10 a.m.—Papers: Rev. W. D. Macray, "Mr. Coxe's Work in the Bodleian;" H. Stevens, "English Bibliography before 1640;" C. Walford, "A General Catalogue of Periodical Literature;" E. C. Thomas, "Legal Bibliography;" W. R. Douthwaite, "Libraries of the Inns of Court."

Wednesday, Sept. 14.—Paper: W. E. A. Axon, "On Public Library Legislation." Discussion on the proposed Bill. Report of the Committee on Title Entries.

Thursday, Sept. 15.—Papers: R. Harrison, "On the Elimination of Obsolete Books from Libraries;" B. R. Wheatley, "On the Authorship of Academical Dissertations." Report of the Committee on the Training of Library Assistants.

Friday, Sept. 16.—Paper: Mr. Archer, "On Library Buildings." Report of the Committee on Title Entries. Election of Officers. General Business.

The morning sittings will commence at 10 a.m.

Notice has been received of the following motions to be proposed at the Annual Meeting, in addition to those printed in our last number.

From Mr. E. B. Nicholson :—

"That the election of a second secretary of the Association be suspended until the next Annual Meeting, and that the Council be authorised either to fill up the vacancy (as in a case of death or resignation), or to appoint a paid assistant secretary, who shall not necessarily be a member of the Association."

"That in metropolitan parishes and districts, and in places of over 30,000 inhabitants, or capable of raising £500 per annum by the penny library-rate, the power of adopting the provisions of Sir John Lubbock's Free Libraries Bill should also be enforced by

Parliament on the bodies which would be the library authorities under the Bill."

From Mr. E. C. Thomas:—

"That it is expedient to revise the constitution of the Association, and that a Committee be appointed for that purpose with instructions to report during the present meeting."

Invitations have been issued to the country members to dine with their London colleagues at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, on Tuesday, the 13th inst., at 6.30 for 7 p.m.

Mr. Cornelius Walford has also forwarded a card of invitation to every member of the Association to a reception at his residence, on Thursday evening, the 15th.

Invitations will also be forwarded to members who may express their wish to be present at a reception to be given by Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell (Miss Braddon), at their residence, Lichfield House, Richmond, Surrey. The day is not yet fixed, but will probably be either Wednesday, the 14th, or Friday, the 16th inst.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

The Council have the pleasure of presenting to the Members of the Library Association their Report on the work of the Association for the Fourth Year of its existence.

Our Annual Meeting, held at Edinburgh in October last, was highly successful; alike on account of the interest of its proceedings, and of the cordiality with which the Association was welcomed by the Librarians and the citizens of Edinburgh. The Lord Provost presided at the dinner given by the Local Committee, and many of the leading inhabitants of Edinburgh, and notably its most eminent publishers, showed a warm appreciation of our work and aims. About forty new members joined us at Edinburgh. Undoubtedly the success of our visit was due to the exertions of the members of the Local Committee, and the Council take this opportunity of thanking them and of making special mention of the services rendered by the courteous and zealous Secretaries of the Committee, Mr. T. G. Law, of the Signet Library, and Mr. W. Black, of the S. S. C. Library.

The "Transactions and Proceedings" of the Edinburgh Meeting have been printed in the same form as those of our previous Annual Meetings. The volume contains accounts of the principal libraries of Edinburgh and East Scotland, which have been collected chiefly by the exertions of Mr. W. Black. Mr. B. F. Stevens has again shown his friendliness to the Association in connexion with the printing and publishing arrangements.

Monthly Meetings.—The use of their committee-room has been very kindly continued to us by the Board of Management of the London Institution, and the Council beg to offer them hearty

thanks on behalf of the Association. Monthly meetings have been held during the year, reports of which have duly appeared in the *Monthly Notes* as well as in the *Library Journal*.

At the first meeting (November 5), a paper was read by Mr. E. B. Nicholson, on "The Use of Buckram, Linoleum and Cretonne for Binding."

At the second meeting (December 3), a paper was read by Messrs. E. C. Thomas and H. B. Wheatley, on "A Proposed Subject Index to Bibliologies and Bibliographies."

At the third meeting (January 7), a paper was read by Mr. W. R. Douthwaite, entitled "Notes on the Gray's Inn Library."

At the fourth meeting (February 4), a paper was read by Mr. W. H. Overall, on "Broadsides and Proclamations," and a note by Mr. J. W. Knapman on "The Proposed Parcel Post."

At the fifth meeting (March 4), Sir John Lubbock's Free Libraries Bill was laid before the meeting and discussed.

At the sixth meeting (April 1), a paper was read by Mr. W. Brace, on "F. A. Ebert's view of a Librarian's Education."

At the seventh meeting (May 6), a paper was read by Mr. Ralph Richardson, W.S., on "The rejection of the Library Acts by the Citizens of Edinburgh, on the 8th February, 1881." Von Laer's "Perfect Binder" was exhibited and explained. Zimmerli's "Statistical Chart" was also exhibited.

At the eighth meeting (June 3), a paper was read by Mr. Henry Wilson, on "A French Provincial Library—Tours."

At the ninth meeting (July 1), a paper was read by Mr. G. R. Humphery, on "Workmen's, or Factory, Libraries."

The meetings for August and September were suspended by the Council.

Committees on Special Subjects.—The work of the Committees during the last year has been less active than it would have been because of the large demands made on the time of Members of Council, especially in connexion with the question of legislation for Free Public Libraries. It may not be out of place to mention that the Council has held no less than twenty-five meetings during the past eleven months, and many of these meetings have been very long.

The Committee on Cataloguing Rules (which is a Committee of the whole Association) have presented a further report, which will be laid before the meeting. It will be remembered that the meeting will have to discuss, and the Council hope to finally settle, these proposed Rules, which there was not sufficient time to dispose of at Edinburgh. For this purpose the Council have reprinted the Rules as originally drafted, and as altered at Edinburgh.

A Sub-Committee of Council on the Training of Library Assistants has held several meetings, and prepared a Report. This Report, containing a proposed scheme of Examinations for Library Assistants, will also be laid before the Meeting.

Bookbinding.—In accordance with the instructions given to the

Council by the Edinburgh Meeting, a circular, inviting information on debatable questions in bookbinding, has been issued to all the binders in the country. Altogether about 2,100 circulars have been sent out. Unfortunately a very small portion of those addressed have, as yet, replied, and our report upon them must be deferred.

Obituary.—The Association has sustained grave losses during the year. The recent death of our esteemed ex-President, the Rev. H. O. Coxe, has left void a place among English librarians which will not soon be filled up. Sir Redmond Barry, who took so genial and dignified a part in the proceedings of our London Conference, and to whom the library and educational interests of Melbourne owe so much, will also be much regretted by all of us. Mr. Solomon A. Hart, R.A., the librarian to the Royal Academy, was a member of the original Organising Committee, and always showed a friendly interest in the Association. Mr. Thomas Watson, Sub-Librarian of the Obstetrical Society, has also died during the year. And another distinguished name that is most fitting to be mentioned here is that of Professor Rolleston, of Oxford. Although not a member of our Association, he took so active a part in our meeting at Oxford, and extended so warm a hospitality to many members, that we feel his loss as if he had been one of ourselves.

Members.—Besides the considerable addition to our numbers made at Edinburgh, there has also been a large accession due to the exertions of some of the newly-appointed local secretaries. The total increase since the last Report has been 100. Our roll has now reached a total of 336, and the Council congratulate the members on this very satisfactory sign of progress.

Finance.—The Treasurer's balance sheet shows our gross income for the year, down to September 3rd, to be £163 7*s.* 3*d.* (including balance from last year), and the expenditure £137 8*s.* 1*d.* It appears to the Council that the time has now arrived when it is worth while to consider the advisability, if not of raising the annual subscription, at least of imposing an entrance fee upon new members.

Free Public Libraries Bill.—At the Annual Meeting held at Manchester, in 1879, it was resolved "That it should be a recommendation to the Council to endeavour to influence Parliament in favour of such an amendment of the law relating to public libraries as would remedy the defects which had been pointed out at this annual meeting, and to cause a Bill for that purpose to be introduced before Parliament." In pursuance of this recommendation the Council exchanged communications with the Metropolitan Free Libraries Association, and ascertained that that Association were actually drafting a Bill intended to remedy the defects above referred to. This proposed Bill was submitted to your Council for their approval, in November, 1880, and after some improvements had been suggested and adopted, the Bill was provisionally approved, and the Secretaries were instructed to co-operate with the officers of the M. F. L. A. to secure petitions in favour of the Bill.

The Bill was introduced by Sir John Lubbock, Lord George Hamilton, and the late Sir Charles Reed, but has not passed the second reading. The details of the measure will be laid before this meeting for full discussion, and the Council have been careful to allot ample time for the matter. The Council learn unofficially that another Bill on the same subject has been drafted by a committee of public library authorities, but no copy has as yet been communicated to them. It is to be hoped that members may have the advantage of having copies in their hands at the meeting, for purpose of comparison; and any general conclusions must be deferred for the present.

"*Library Journal*" *and* "*Monthly Notes.*"—Mr. Bowker, who had been requested by the Edinburgh meeting to confer with the Council on the subject of the *Library Journal*, accordingly gave the Council the benefit of his advice and experience. He also informed them that the publisher of the Journal had finally decided to alter its form and continue the publication. Under these circumstances, an offer which had been made to the Council by one of the Secretaries, to undertake the publication of an official organ in England which should hold the same relation to the Association as the American Journal had held to the English and American Associations, was not accepted. But although the matter has remained in abeyance, it must not be considered as finally dropped. The Council are quite sensible of the disadvantage of having an official organ appearing on the other side of the Atlantic. They can only repeat, therefore, what they said in their report last year, that "the whole question of the form and conduct of an official organ for this Association may be regarded as remaining open." Meantime, it was decided to continue the publication of the *Monthly Notes* for another year, while our official organ has been issued under the editorship of Mr. C. A. Cutter, our accomplished and energetic honorary member.

Local Secretaries.—In pursuance of the resolution carried at Edinburgh, the Council have appointed Corresponding Secretaries in twenty centres. One result of the appointment has been a considerable addition to our members, especially in Birmingham, where Mr. Scarse has secured over thirty new members. The Council accordingly passed a resolution, "That the thanks of the Council be given to Mr. C. E. Scarse, Local Secretary for Birmingham, for his efforts in securing new members for the Association."

Cambridge Meeting.—In pursuance of a requisition signed by seven members of the Council, the President convened a special general meeting of the Association in London, on the 18th of May, to consider the question of altering the time and place fixed for the annual meeting. In consequence of the representations made by our Cambridge members it was decided to postpone the visit of the Association to Cambridge until 1882, when we are promised a cordial reception, and when Mr. Bradshaw has promised to be our President. It was also decided to hold the annual meeting for this year in London, at a date to be fixed by the Council.

STATEMENT OF THE PECUNIARY AFFAIRS OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM from September 11th, 1880, to September 5th, 1881.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.
Balance brought forward	39	4	3
2 Life Subscriptions at £5 5 0	10	10	0
Annual Subscriptions:—			
For 1879, 1 at 10s. 6d.	0	10	6
1880, 84 at 10s. 6d.	44	2	0
„ 1 Associate	0	5	0
1881, 126 at 10s. 6d.	66	3	0
„ Hon. Soc. of Gray's Inn	1	1	0
1882, 2 at 10s. 6d.	1	1	0
	113	2	6
Sale of Tables, &c.	0	10	6
	163	7	3

Payments.	£	s.	d.
Report of Proceedings at Edinburgh, on acc.	45	0	0
Balance of Account for Proceedings at Manchester	8	3	3
Reporter of Discussions at Edinburgh	5	0	0
Editor of *Monthly Notes*	20	0	0
Printing Corrections of *Monthly Notes*	4	14	5
Printing Programmes, Cards, Circulars, Rules, and List of Members	34	12	2
Postage and Stationery	19	18	3
	137	8	1
Balance at Bankers 0 14 2			
Do. in P.O. Savings Bank 25 5 0			
	25	19	2
	163	7	3

(Signed) ROBERT HARRISON, *Treasurer.*

Examined and compared with Books and Vouchers, and found to be correct,

5th September, 1881.

(Signed) { J. W. BONE / W. R. DOUTHWAITE } *Auditors.*

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

ANNUAL MEETING, 1881.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

President.

HENRY BRADSHAW.

Vice-Presidents.

GEO. BULLEN. | R. HARRISON.
REV. R. SINKER.

Council.

Twelve to be Elected.

PRESENT MEMBERS.	NEW NOMINATIONS.
J. B. BAILEY.	J. P. BRISCOE.
F. T. BARRETT.	W. J. HAGGERSTON.
G. BULLEN.	Rev. J. C. HUDSON.
P. COWELL.	Prof. W. STANLEY JEVONS.
A. J. FROST.	J. W. KNAPMAN.
R. GARNETT.	T. G. LAW.
E. B. NICHOLSON.	S. TIMMINS.
W. H. OVERALL.	C. WELCH.
H. STEVENS.	
H. R. TEDDER.	
C. WALFORD.	
B. R. WHEATLEY.	

(Not more than Eight are eligible for re-election; Mr. Wheatley does not offer himself for re-election.)

Treasurer.

R. HARRISON.

Secretaries.

E. C. THOMAS. | C. WELCH.

(Mr. C. Welch does not offer himself for re-election.)

FURTHER REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TITLE ENTRIES.

YOUR Committee was appointed by the Council in order to consider supplementary rules and recommendations on the subject of Cataloguing.

Several meetings have been held, and the following recommendations have been agreed to :—

1. That Rule 18 should be amended so as to read as follows: "The Bible, or any part of it (including the Apocrypha)."

2. That the following memorandum should follow Rule 20: "The Talmud and Koran (and parts of them) to be entered under those words; the sacred books of other religions to be entered under the names by which they are generally known; every reference to be given to the names of editors, translators, &c."

3. That the following words should be added to Rule 39: "The prefixes M' and Mc, S., St., Ste., Messrs., Mr., and Mrs. to be arranged as if written in full, Mac, Sanctus, Saint, Sainte, Messieurs, Mister, and Missis."

4. That the following memorandum should follow Rule 49: "Prefixes indicating the rank or profession of writers may be added in the heading when they are part of the usual designation of the writers."

It appeared unadvisable in the present state of things to attempt to increase the number of rules to be considered at the Annual Meeting. The Committee suggest, however, that it would be very desirable to prepare examples to be appended to the various rules adopted by the Association. But this can hardly be done until the Rules have received their final shape.

The following gentlemen have lately joined the Association :— Mr. T. Lakin, Librarian, Free Public Library, Devonport; Mr. J. W. Barter, Assistant Librarian, Free Public Library, Plymouth; Mr. C. Wall, *Observer* Officer, Wigan; Mr. J. Manley, member of Free Library Committee, West Bromwich; Mr. R. F. Sketchley, Curator of the Dyce and Forster Collections, South Kensington Museum; Mr. James Yates, Librarian, Free Public Library, Leeds.

At the meeting of the British Association at York a paper was read on the 6th inst. by Mr. James Heywood on the "Free Public Libraries of Manchester, and Notting Hill, London."

Mr. J. M. La Barte has resigned the office of Librarian to the King's Inns Library, Dublin.

We regret to state that Mr. J. Winter Jones, late principal librarian of the British Museum, and the first president of this Association, died suddenly yesterday morning at his house at Henley-on-Thames.

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MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

THE next Monthly Meeting of the Association will be held on Friday, November 4th, at 8 p.m., at the London Institution, Finsbury Circus.

The attention of members is called to the appointment of a Committee of the whole Association to prepare illustrations of the Cataloguing Rules. It is requested that members who are unable to attend the Committee will forward examples and suggestions to the Secretaries, Mr. E. C. Thomas, 2, South Square, Gray's Inn, W.C., and Mr. C. Welch, Corporation Library, Guildhall, E.C.

The Council invite suggestions from members as to the future mode of publishing the proceedings of the Association, and particularly upon the following points: — Firstly, as to the desirability of continuing the series of volumes of Transactions of the Annual Meetings. Secondly, as to the enlargement of "Monthly Notes," and how far members will be willing to help by the contribution of papers and the library news of their own institutions and localities. Thirdly, as to the publication of a new official journal, either quarterly or monthly, to contain reports of all meetings, and to take the place of the present annual and monthly publications.

The whole question will shortly press for final decision, and members are earnestly requested to forward their suggestions with as little delay as possible.

OCTOBER MONTHLY MEETING.

THE first Monthly Meeting of the fifth year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Friday, October 7th, 1881, at 8 p.m., Mr. CORNELIUS WALFORD, Vice-President, in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the following gentlemen were proposed for election, and will be balloted for at the next meeting:—Mr. C. W. H. Wyman, Great Queen Street, W.C.; Mr. C. W. Holgate, 2, Ladbroke

Road, Notting Hill; Mr. R. W. Hobbes, H.M. Dockyard, Chatham; and Mr. W. Andrews, Hon. Secretary of the Literary Club, Hull. The following Committees were appointed :—

1. On Size Notation, to consist of Messrs. G. Bullen, R. Garnett, J. W. Knapman, H. R. Tedder, B. R. Wheatley, and the Secretaries.

2. On the Training of Library Assistants, to consist of Messrs. H. Bradshaw (President), P. Cowell, J. D. Mullins, and W. H. Overall.

3. To prepare illustrations to the Cataloguing Rules, to be a Committee of the whole Association.

The meeting then adjourned.

REPORT OF THE EDINBURGH MEETING.

MEMBERS will be pleased to learn that they may shortly expect to receive the Report of the proceedings of last year's meeting at Edinburgh. The volume, which is edited by Messrs. Thomas and Welch, has been printed by the Chiswick Press in the same handsome manner as the transactions of previous years. It will extend to about twenty-five pages more than the Manchester volume, and the matter will be of equal importance and interest. The contents include the reports presented to the meeting, the opening address by Mr. J. Small, V.P., and the following papers :—Notes on Early Printing in Scotland, by J. T. Clark; Biographical Notices of some eminent Edinburgh Librarians, by W. Black; the Free Libraries of Scotland, by T. Mason; the Extension of the Free Library System to Counties, by J. Maclauchlan; the Classification of History, by B. Lomax; the Librarian and his Work, by J. D. Mullins; an Improved System of Press and Shelf Notation, by J. Marshall; Assyrian Libraries, by L. A. Wheatley; Notes on the Great Libraries of Scandinavia, by G. Goudie; Historical Sketch of the Library of the University of Edinburgh, by J. Small; a System of Clearing for Duplicate Volumes, by C. Walford; Copyright, in its relation to the Supply of Books, by R. A. Macfie; an Index to Scientific Bibliographies, by J. B. Bailey; Buckram, a Palinode, by E. B. Nicholson. Reports of the Proceedings and Discussions, and of the Speeches at the dinner given to the Association by the Local Committee follow; the rest of the volume consists of accounts of the libraries of Edinburgh visited by the Association, and those of East Scotland. The appendix contains, among other matters, the Cataloguing Rules as originally drafted, and as amended by the meeting.

ANNUAL MEETING AT LONDON.

THE fourth annual meeting of this Association was held in the Hall of Gray's Inn, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the 13th, 14th, 15th, and 16th of September. After a preliminary meeting of the Council, the first day's proceedings began at 10 a.m., when the President, Mr. J. A. RUSSELL, Q.C., Master of the Library of the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn, took the chair.

The following gentlemen were proposed by the Council for immediate election, and duly elected:—Mr. G. L. Gomme, Mr. D. H. Burn, Mr. J. Bass Mullinger, Mr. J. Justen, Mr. E. G. Allen, Mr. Greville, Mr. Wynne E. Baxter, Mr. J. H. Chapman, Mr. E. King, and Mr. J. J. Charnock.

The names of the following gentlemen, engaged in Library administration, were announced as having joined the Association:—The Hon. John Ure, Lord Provost of Glasgow; Mr. T. W. Newton, Assistant Librarian, Royal School of Mines; Mr. Daniel Williams, Dorman's Library, St. Leonards; Mr. T. Lakin, Librarian, Free Public Library, Devonport; Mr. J. W. Barter, Assistant Librarian, Free Public Library, Plymouth; Mr. C. Wall, *Observer* Office, Wigan; Mr. J. Manley, member of Free Library Committee, West Bromwich; Mr. R. F. Sketchley, Curator of the Dyce and Forster Collections, South Kensington Museum; Mr. James Yates, Librarian, Free Public Library, Leeds; Rev. Dr. W. Sparrow Simpson, Librarian of St. Paul's Cathedral Library; Mr. W. S. Bramwell, Librarian, Free Public Library, Preston; Mr. J. Whittall, Assistant Secretary, Statistical Society; and Mr. R. R. Holmes, Librarian to Her Majesty.

The CHAIRMAN then delivered the introductory address, in which, after referring to the death of Mr. Coxe, our late President, and remarking on the principal subjects on the paper of business, he proceeded to welcome the Association in the name of the Benchers of Gray's Inn, and remarked on the peculiar fitness of the place for such a meeting, on account of the great men connected with that place who had done so much to make the materials for books in history, politics, and science, specially referring to the names of Gascoyne, Powell, Thos. Cromwell, Burleigh, Holt, Romilly, and Bacon.—A vote of thanks was then given to the Chairman for his address.—On the motion of Mr. MULLINS, seconded by Mr. C. WALFORD, it was resolved, "That this meeting expresses its profound regret at the recent loss which it has sustained by the death of its first President, Mr. J. Winter Jones, late Principal Librarian of the British Museum, and requests Mr. Garnett to prepare a notice of Mr. Jones to be printed in the Transactions."

The report of the Council was then read by Mr. WELCH, Secretary, and was adopted on the motion of Mr. C. WALFORD, seconded by Mr. W. H. K. WRIGHT, after a short discussion.

A resolution, proposed by Mr. MULLINS, "That in future the Council be requested to consult provincial members before taking any action specially affecting the provinces," was unanimously agreed to.

The TREASURER then read the balance-sheet, explaining that, as it was made up to the 5th September, and the year ended the 5th October, it did not represent the whole income for the year.

A resolution by Mr. NICHOLSON, respecting the finances of the Association, was ruled out of order for want of notice, and the balance-sheet was then adopted.

Mr. THOMAS, Secretary, then read a paper by the Rev. W. D.

MACRAY, of the Bodleian Library, entitled, "A Short Notice of Mr. Coxe's Work at the Bodleian." After the discussion of this paper, Mr. HENRY STEVENS read a paper on "English Bibliography before 1640." At the end of the discussion on this paper, the rule as to notice was suspended, to allow Mr. NICHOLSON to give notice of his motion for the sitting on Friday. A motion that it should have precedence of other business was lost, and the meeting adjourned at half-past twelve.

Business was resumed at one o'clock, when Mr. ERNEST C. THOMAS read his paper on "Legal Bibliography;" after which Mr. DOUTHWAITE, Librarian of Gray's Inn, read his paper on "The Libraries of the Inns of Court." After the discussion of these papers, the meeting adjourned, and the members were conducted by Mr. Douthwaite over the library of Gray's Inn, and afterwards to the halls and libraries of Lincoln's Inn and the Inner and Middle Temple. They next visited the library of the Incorporated Law Society, where they were received by Mr. F. Boase, the Librarian, who gave an account of the library.

In the evening the country members were entertained at dinner at the Freemasons' Tavern, the chair being occupied by Mr. RICHARD GARNETT, Superintendent of the Reading-room of the British Museum. After the toast of "The Queen and Royal Family" had been duly honoured, the CHAIRMAN proposed "Literature," remarking that, as a librarian, he was bound to take literature as the whole of that which was printed, and, of course, was unable to touch on more than the merest fringe of the subject. The indebtedness of librarians to literature could be expressed in one word—"Existence." The indebtedness of literature to librarians was a much more intricate matter, but if he were to try to express it in one word, he should use the word "Stability" (hear, hear). In ancient times, but for the spirit of librarianship, literature would have perished altogether; but it took refuge in monasteries, where there were libraries, and men who spent their time in copying and securing the perpetuity of books. Thus the literature of that age had been preserved and transmitted. At the present day literature was so extensive that if it were not for the librarian a very great part of it would be lost entirely. Thus, librarians repaid their obligation to literature by finding places in which books might be preserved.—Mr. AXON responded to the toast.—Mr. HARRISON proposed "Library Committees," which was responded to by Mr. Alderman HANSON and Mr. TIMMINS.—The CHAIRMAN next proposed "Our Guests," referring to the handsome manner in which the London members had been entertained at Oxford, Manchester, and Edinburgh, and expressing the pleasure they felt in entertaining their brethren from the country.—Mr. MULLINS and Mr. YATES acknowledged the toast.—Mr. HENRY STEVENS proposed the "Libraries of the Old and New World," coupling therewith the names of Mr. Greenhough, President of the Board of Trustees of Boston Library, and Mr. Bowker, of New York.—Mr. GREENHOUGH said, in the course of his remarks, that the prin-

ciple by which they were guided in the Boston Library was, in the first place, to have the largest number of books suitable for the largest number of people, and next, to put these books in such a position that the largest number might read them. Any inhabitant of the age of sixteen who could bring anyone to say that he lived in a house in Boston could have a book. In an issue of over a million of volumes they had only lost one in eleven thousand, and they were books of no importance which the fines were amply sufficient to replace.—Mr. BOWKER remarked that the librarian of the present day was doing a great deal of work in the way of cataloguing and arranging that would not have to be done again. This would enable them to do more of their best work—the work with the reader rather than with the books.—Mr. WALFORD proposed "Publishers, Printers, Booksellers, and Binders."—Mr. J. MAXWELL responded for the publishers, and Mr. WYMAN for the printers.—The Rev. Dr. SPARROW SIMPSON proposed "The Library Association." He said that, speaking as a clergyman, if he had to prepare a scheme which would provide the most usefulness in a parish, he should in the first place provide a church. In the second place there would perhaps be a school, but in the third there would certainly be a library. As to the Association, he thought its work was already apparent. It might be that they as librarians stood only at the doors of the temple of knowledge, but they held there a very bright and brilliant torch (applause).—Mr. OVERALL responded to the toast.—Mr. TIMMINS proposed "The Chairman," who responded, expressing his regret that the principal Librarian of the British Museum was unable to be present.—Mr. STEVENS proposed "The Secretaries," remarking upon the able manner in which they performed their duties.—Messrs. THOMAS and WELCH having responded in a few words, the proceedings were brought to a close.

SECOND DAY.

On the second day, Wednesday, 14th September, business began at 10 a.m., when Mr. MULLINS took the chair. Mr. THOMAS moved his resolution: "That it is expedient to revise the constitution of the Association, and that a Committee be appointed for that purpose, with instructions to report during the present meeting."

This was seconded by Mr. TEDDER, and, after a short discussion, was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN moved "That the Committee consist of all the members of the Association."—Mr. THOMAS moved, as an amendment, "That the Committee consist of the members of the Council and the Corresponding Secretaries, with power to add to their number." On a show of hands the amendment was lost, and it was resolved that the Committee should be a Committee of the whole Association, and should meet the next morning at 9 a.m.

Mr. AXON then read his paper "On Legislation for Public Free Libraries," in which he traced the course of legislation on the subject, and criticised the proposed Bill.—At the close of the discussion on this paper, Mr. NICHOLSON moved his resolution: "That the pro-

visions of Sir John Lubbock's Free Libraries Bill, as proposed to be amended by the mover, be discussed and voted on *seriatim* by the meeting." This was seconded by Mr. TEDDER, whereupon Mr. W. H. K. WRIGHT moved as an amendment, "That in consideration of the fact that two separate drafts of Sir John Lubbock's Bill are being prepared, and that a meeting has been convened for Monday next by the Mayor of Manchester to consider one of those drafts, it is inexpedient for this Association to discuss the provisions of either at the present meeting." This amendment was seconded by Mr. S. TIMMINS, and carried—Mr. NICHOLSON then moved, seconded by Mr. TEDDER, "That in metropolitan parishes and districts, and in places of over 30,000 inhabitants, or capable of raising £500 per annum by the penny library-rate, the power of adopting the provisions of Sir John Lubbock's Free Libraries Bill should also be conferred by Parliament on the bodies which would be the library authorities under the Bill." The previous question having been put and carried as an amendment, the meeting adjourned at half-past twelve, and the members proceeded to St. Paul's Cathedral, where they were received by the Rev. Dr. W. Sparrow Simpson, librarian, who gave them an account of the library, and exhibited some of its principal treasures, and afterwards conducted them over other parts of the Cathedral.

The afternoon sitting was entirely occupied with the revision of the proposed Cataloguing Rules. On the question of size notation the previous question was proposed and carried; and the revision of the remaining rules was then completed. (The rules as amended will be found at pp. 81–4.)

THIRD DAY.

On the third day, Thursday, 15th September, the Committee on the Revision of the Constitution of the Association met at 9 a.m., and completed their work at 11 a.m., when Mr. C. WALFORD took the chair, and Mr. HARRISON, Treasurer, read a paper "On the Limitation of the Contents of Libraries by the Elimination of Obsolete Works." After the discussion on this paper the report of the Committee on the Training of Library Assistants was brought up.—Mr. OVERALL moved that the report be received; this was seconded by Mr. W. H. K. WRIGHT, and carried unanimously.—Mr. THOMAS, Secretary, seconded by Mr. TEDDER, then moved that the report be also adopted, but on a ballot the motion was lost by 24 to 19, and the meeting adjourned at half-past twelve.

On resuming at half-past one Mr. B. R. WHEATLEY, Librarian of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, read a paper on "The Question of Authorship in Academical Dissertations." After the discussion on this paper Mr. WALFORD left the chair, which was taken by Mr. P. COWELL for the remainder of the sitting, and Mr. WALFORD then read a paper on the "Outline of a Plan for the Preparation of a Catalogue of (British) Periodical Literature." At the close of the discussion on this paper, it was resolved to take into consideration the motion of which Mr. Nicholson had given

notice on the first day. Mr. NICHOLSON accordingly moved "That a circular be sent as early as possible to all gentlemen and ladies whose names are on the list of members, but whose subscriptions are in arrear, asking them to pay the arrears or to signify their withdrawal; that the incoming Council be requested to raise the invested capital to the amount which has been received in life subscriptions, and to carry forward next year a balance of income sufficient to cover all liabilities then outstanding or properly attaching to that year, and that no steps be taken to incur expenditure on the publication of volumes till these results have been attained."

After a few words from Messrs. HARRISON, OVERALL, and WALFORD, it was agreed that the matter should be left to the Council, and the motion accordingly dropped. The meeting then adjourned, and the members visited Stationers' Hall, where they were received by the Clerk of the Company, Mr. C. R. Rivington, who gave a brief account of the Company and their Hall, and exhibited several of the ancient registers and early publications of the Company. In the evening Mr. Cornelius Walford received the members of the Association at his residence, where they inspected his interesting collection of works on Insurance, and the MS. material for the proposed Catalogue of Periodical Literature.

FOURTH DAY.

On assembling at 10 a.m. on the 16th September, the chair was taken by Mr. HARRISON, Treasurer, and the Committee appointed to revise the constitution presented their report. The revised constitution was then discussed clause by clause, and it was resolved, on the motion of Mr. WELCH, Secretary, seconded by Mr. C. WALFORD, that it should be adopted and come into immediate operation. (The revised constitution will be found on pp. 85-7.)

Mr. NICHOLSON then proposed his resolution, "That this Association is in favour of the general principle of opening public libraries, museums, and other galleries for some part, at least, of every Sunday; though particular local circumstances may sometimes render the present application of this principle useless or undesirable."—Mr. TEDDER seconded the resolution.—Mr. W. H. K. WRIGHT moved as an amendment, "That this Association does not consider it within its province to consider and discuss the question of opening libraries and museums on Sundays." The amendment was seconded by Mr. COWELL, and carried almost unanimously.

Mr. ARCHER, Librarian of the National Library of Ireland, then read a paper, entitled "Suggestions as to Public Library Buildings."

On the motion of Mr. MACALISTER, seconded by Mr. W. H. K. WRIGHT, a unanimous vote of thanks was given to the Committee on the Training of Library Assistants for their report.

It was moved by Mr. THOMAS, Secretary, and seconded by Mr. BRADSHAW, "That the Cataloguing Rules as amended at Edinburgh and at this meeting be adopted, and at once published." This was unanimously agreed to, and the meeting adjourned at half-past twelve.

On re-assembling at one o'clock, the officers for the year 1881-2 were elected in accordance with the revised constitution. The result of the election was declared to be as follows :—President, H. Bradshaw. Vice-Presidents, G. Bullen, Rev. R. Sinker, S. Timmins, C. Walford, and B. R. Wheatley. London Members of Council: E. A. Bond, G. L. Campbell, A. Cotgreave, W. R. Douthwaite, A. J. Frost, R. Garnett, J. W. Knapman, E. B. Nicholson, W. H. Overall, H. Stevens, H. R. Tedder, and H. B. Wheatley. Country Members of Council: J. B. Bailey (Oxford), F. T. Barrett (Glasgow), J. P. Briscoe (Nottingham), P. Cowell (Liverpool), W. J. Haggerston (Newcastle-upon-Tyne), T. G. Law (Edinburgh), C. W. Sutton (Manchester), and W. H. K. Wright (Plymouth). Treasurer, R. Harrison. Secretaries, E. C. Thomas and C. Welch. Auditors, J. W. Bone and W. Brace.

Mr. BRADSHAW moved, and Mr. OVERALL seconded, a vote of thanks to the Treasurer and Benchers of Gray's Inn, which was briefly acknowledged on their behalf by Mr. BROWN.

Mr. TIMMINS moved, and Mr. BRUNT seconded, a vote of thanks to Mr. J. A. Russell, for his able services in the chair on the first day of the meeting.

Mr. MULLINS then moved, and Mr. BARRETT seconded, a vote of thanks to Mr. Walford for his reception.

Mr. B. R. WHEATLEY moved, and Mr. THOMAS seconded, a vote of thanks to Mr. Douthwaite for his services in promoting the arrangements for this meeting.

The CHAIRMAN moved, and Mr. OVERALL seconded, a vote of thanks to the Board of Management of the London Institution for the use of their committee room during the past year.

The CHAIRMAN moved, and Mr. WRIGHT seconded, a vote of thanks to the members of the Entertainment Committee, which was responded to by Mr. J. HEYWOOD and Mr. STEVENS.

Mr. BRADSHAW moved, and Mr. MACALISTER seconded, a vote of thanks to the Officers and Council for the past year, which was acknowledged on their behalf by the TREASURER, and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

At the close of the meeting the members proceeded to Richmond, where they visited the Free Library, and were afterwards entertained at an "at home" by Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell, Lichfield House, Richmond.

The following is a list of the names of (90) members present at the annual meeting; names of members elected at the meeting are distinguished by an asterisk. It is requested that notice of any errors or omissions may be sent to the Secretaries :—

*E. G. Allen (London); W. Archer (Dublin); E. W. Ashbee (London); W. E. A. Axon (Manchester); E. W. Badger (Birmingham); J. B. Bailey (Oxford); F. T. Barrett (Glasgow); C. H. Bayley (West Bromwich); A. J. Birch (New Swindon); F. Boase, G. C. Boase, J. W. Bone (London); T. W. Boss (Banbury); R. R. Bowker (U.S.A.); W. Brace (London); H. Bradshaw (Cambridge); J. P. Briscoe (Nottingham); W. S. Brough (Leek); E. Brunt (Hanley); *D. H. Burn (London); G. L. Campbell (Wigan); J. Chatto (London); P. C.

Cleasby (Worcester); W. H. Congreve (London); A. Cotgreave (Richmond); P. Cowell (Liverpool); Rev. J. A. Curling (Amersham); I. Davis (London); D. Dickinson (West Bromwich); W. R. Douthwaite (London); G. Easter (Norwich); H. A. Eliot (London); H. T. Folkard (Wigan); A. J. Frost (London); R. Garnett (London); G. Goudie (Edinburgh); F. Grut (London); R. Hanby (Manchester); Ald. and Sheriff R. Hanson (London); G. Harris (Deritend); R. Harrison (London); T. Heath (Derby); J. Heywood (London); Rev. J. C. Hudson (Horncastle); R. Hudson (Lapworth); G. R. Humphery, *J. Justen (London); E. King (Richmond); J. W. Knapman, J. P. Latimer (London); B. Lomax (Brighton); J. Y. W. MacAlister (Leeds); F. Madan (Oxford); C. Madeley (Warrington); H. J. Mathews (Oxford); *J. B. Mullinger (London); J. D. Mullins (Birmingham); T. W. Newton, E. B. Nicholson, W. H. Overall (London); E. Parfitt (Exeter); G. Parr (London); J. Pink (Cambridge); J. A. Russell (London); C. P. Russell (Bath); C. E. Scarse (Birmingham); A. E, Sceales (Edinburgh); L. Seligmann (Berlin); R. F. Sketchley, A. Smith, I. Stamp, H. Stevens (London); J. Taylor (Bristol); *H. R. Tedder, E. C. Thomas, R. Thorburn (London); S. Timmins, E. Tonks (Birmingham); W. S. W. Vaux (London); J. K. Waite (Bolton); W. C. Walcott (Gambia); C. Walford, C. Welch, B. R. Wheatley, H. B. Wheatley, J. V. Whitaker, J. Whittall, H. Wilson (London); W. H. K. Wright (Plymouth); J. Yates (Leeds).

CATALOGUING RULES OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Title.

1. The title is to be an exact transcript from the title-page, neither amended, translated, nor in any way altered, except that mottoes, repetitions, and matter of any kind not essential may be omitted, omissions to be indicated by a group of three dots (. . .). The typography and punctuation of the title need not be strictly adhered to.

2. The titles of books especially valuable for antiquity or rarity may be given in full, with the exact punctuation.

3. In English, initial capitals are to be given to proper names of persons and personifications, places, bodies, noted events, and periods; to adjectives and other words derived from proper names when they have a direct reference to the person, place, &c., from which they are derived; to the first word of every quoted title of a work; to titles of honour, when standing instead of a proper name (*e.g.*, Earl of Derby, but John Stanley, earl of Derby).

4. In foreign languages the use of capitals is to follow the local practice.

5. In doubtful cases capitals are to be avoided.

Volumes, Size, Place, Date, &c.

6. Other particulars are to be given after the title in the following order, those printed in italics being optional:—

(*a.*) The edition as specified on the title page.

(*b.*) The number of volumes, if more than one.

(*c.*) *If there be only one volume, the number of pages to be indicated by giving the number of each pagination, connecting the numbers by the sign + ; the same sign added at the end indicating additional unpaged matter other than advertisements.*

(*d.*) *The number of separate illustrations, maps, or portraits.*
(*e.*) The size.
(*f.*) The place of publication, *the place of printing, when different from that of publication, and the publisher's name.*
(*g.*) The year as given on the title-page, but in Arabic figures. *The year of actual publication, if known to be different, being added in square brackets.*

Language of Title and Imprint.

7. These title and imprint entries are to be as far as possible in the language of the title, alterations and additions being enclosed in square brackets.

Contents and Notes.

8. Contents of volumes are to be given when expedient.
9. Notes explanatory or illustrative, or descriptive of bibliographical and other peculiarities, including imperfections, to be subjoined when necessary. Tables of contents and notes to be in smaller type.

Headings.

Books are to be entered—
10. Under the surnames of authors when stated on the title-page, or otherwise certainly known, with the fore-name in brackets; a name not stated in the book or in a subsequent edition of it to be placed within square brackets, and all anonymous works to have the abbreviation "Anon." added.
11. Under the initials of authors' names when these only are known, the last initial being put first.
12. Under the pseudonyms of the writers, with a cross-reference to the real name when known.
13. Under the names of editors of collections, and under the catch-titles of such collections; each separate item to be at the same time sufficiently catalogued under its own heading.
14. Under the names of countries and cities, societies, &c., which authorize their publication.
15. Under the first word, not an article, of the titles of periodicals.
16. Under the chief subject-word of the titles of anonymous books, and, where advisable, with a cross-reference under any other noticeable word.
17. Commentaries with the text, and translations, are to be entered under the heading of the original work; but commentaries without the text under the name of the commentator.
18. The Bible, or any part of it (including the Apocrypha) in any language, is to be under the word Bible, the separate parts classed in the order of the authorized version, polyglots and original texts coming first, followed by English translations; the other versions in alphabet of names of the languages.
19. The Talmud and Koran (and parts of them) are to be entered under those words.
20. The sacred books of other religions are to be entered under

the names by which they are generally known; cross-references to be given from the names of editors, translators, &c.

21. Service and Prayer-Books used by any religious community are to be placed under the head of Liturgies, with a sub-head of the religious community.

22. Books having more than one author or editor are to be entered under the one first-named in the title, with a cross-reference under each of the others.

23. Names of translators, commentators, editors, and preface writers, if they do not occur in the title-page, may be added within square brackets, a cross-reference being made in each case.

24. The respondent or defender of an academical thesis is to be considered as the author, unless the work unequivocally appears to be the work of the præses.

25. Reports of civil actions are to be entered under the name of the party to the suit which stands first on the title-page. Reports of Crown and criminal proceedings are to be entered under the name of the defendant. Admiralty proceedings relating to vessels are to be entered under the name of the vessel.

26. Catalogues are to be entered under the name of the institution, or owner of the collection, with a cross-reference to the compiler.

27. Noblemen are to be entered under the title except when the family name is better known, a cross-reference under the title being made in every case.

28. Ecclesiastical dignitaries, unless popes or sovereign princes, are to be entered under their surnames; the highest title to be added, with a cross-reference from the title employed in the book.

29. All persons generally known by a fore-name are to be so entered, the English form being used in the case of sovereigns, popes, ruling princes, Oriental writers, friars, and persons canonized.

30. Married women and other persons who have changed their names to be put under the name best known, with a cross-reference from the last authorized name.

31. In the heading of titles the names of authors are to be given in full, and in their vernacular form; authors generally known under their Latin or Latinized names are to be entered under those names, the vernacular name being added after the first entry, and a cross-reference being made.

32. English and French surnames beginning with a prefix (except the French de and d') are to be recorded under the prefix; in other languages under the word following.

33. English compound surnames are to be entered under the last part of the name; foreign ones under the first part; cross-references being given in all instances.

34. When an author has been known by more than one name, references should be inserted from the name or names not used as headings to the one used.

35. A society is to be entered under the first word, not an article, of its corporate name, with references from any other name by

which it is known, *and from the name of the place where its head-quarters are established.*

MISCELLANEOUS.

36. The heading is not to be repeated; a single indent or dash indicates the omission of the preceding heading or title. A dash following a number signifies continuation.

37. Entries under the surname only are to precede fuller entries under the same name; where the initials only of the fore-names are given, they are to precede full entries with the same initials.

38. The prefixes M' and Mc, S., St., Ste., Messrs., Mr., and Mrs., are to be arranged as if written in full, Mac, Sanctus, Saint, Sainte, Messieurs, Mister, and Mistress.

39. The works of an author are to be arranged in the following order:—

(*a.*) Collected works.

(*b*). Partial collections.

(*c.*) Individual works in alphabetical order of titles, under the first word not an article.

Translations are to follow the originals in alphabetical order of languages.

40. Cross-references are to be given from the subjects of biographies to their writers.

41. The order of alphabetization is to be that of the English alphabet.

42. In composite headings the first word is alone to be considered.

43. Names of persons are to precede similar names of places.

44. Titles in foreign characters may be transliterated.

45. The German ä, ö, ü are to be arranged as if written out in full, ae, oe, ue.

46. Arabic figures are to be used rather than Roman; but Roman figures may be used after the names of sovereigns, princes, and popes, and may be used to designate the number of a volume followed by a page number.

47. Designations are to be added to distinguish writers of the same name from each other.

48. Prefixes indicating the rank or profession of writers may be added in the heading when they are part of the usual designation of the writers.

49. The languages in which a book is written are to be stated when there are several and the fact is not mentioned in the title-page.

CONSTITUTION OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

I. Name.

1. The Association shall be called "The Library Association of the United Kingdom."

II. Objects.

2. Its main object shall be to unite all persons engaged or interested in library work, for the purpose of promoting the best possible administration of libraries. It shall also aim at the encouragement of bibliographical research.

III. Members.

3. There shall be two classes of members, subscribing and honorary.

4. Subscribing members shall pay an annual subscription of half a guinea, which shall become due in advance on the 5th of October in each year. Any member not paying the subscription within six calendar months from that date shall, after notification, cease to belong to the Association. Annual payments may be commuted by a life-subscription of five guineas, and such subscription shall be invested by the Council on behalf of the Association.

5. Any person engaged in the administration of a library shall become a subscribing member on payment of the annual subscription.

6. Any person not actually engaged in library administration may be elected a subscribing member at any monthly meeting, after notice of proposal given at the previous meeting. Provided that the number of persons so elected shall never exceed two-fifths of the whole number of subscribing members.

7. Honorary members may be elected by a vote of upwards of three-fourths of the members voting at any monthly meeting, after notice of proposal given at the previous meeting.

8. The Association shall have power to strike any member off its list by the unanimous vote of all members voting at any monthly meeting, after notice of motion given at the previous meeting, and communicated to the member; or by a vote of five-sixths of the members voting at any annual or special general meeting. Provided that a member whose name has been struck off at a monthly meeting shall have the right of appeal to the next annual or special general meeting.

IV. Officers.

9. The whole affairs of the Association shall be conducted (subject to the control of annual and special general meetings) by a Council, consisting of a President, Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, two Secretaries, and twenty others, of whom twelve shall be London and eight country members. The above shall be elected at one annual meeting, and shall bear office until the close of the next. To

these shall be added all past Presidents and Vice-Presidents who shall intimate their wish to serve on the Council.

10. In case of the death or resignation of any elected officer, the Council may, at their discretion, elect some other member in his place.

11. The President shall not be capable of holding office for a continuous period of more than one year.

12. The Council shall present to the annual meeting a general report on the progress of the Association during the year.

13. The Treasurer shall receive all money due to the Association, shall make such payments as the Council shall direct, and shall keep a clear account of all receipts, payments, assets, and liabilities, of which he shall submit a report to the annual meeting, and, whenever so requested, to the Council.

14. The Secretaries for the time being shall keep a record of all proceedings, shall draft reports, issue notices, and conduct correspondence, and shall have the charge of all books, papers, and other property belonging to the Association.

15. Meetings of the Council shall be called by the President, and shall be held at such time and place as he shall appoint. It shall be lawful for the Secretaries to submit any resolution to each member of the Council in writing, and to receive written answers.

16. Two Auditors shall be annually elected by the Association at the same time and manner in which the officers are elected. They shall present to the Association, at each annual meeting, a full report on its financial affairs. In the event of the death or resignation of an Auditor, the vacancy shall be filled up by the next monthly meeting of the Association.

17. No person shall hold two offices simultaneously, or shall be at the same time an officer and an Auditor.

V. Meetings of the Association.

18. There shall be an annual meeting, of which at least two calendar months' notice shall be sent to each member. The Association shall fix, at each annual meeting, the place of the next, provided that the same town shall not be chosen for two successive meetings.

19. The annual meeting shall receive and consider the general report of the Council and the Treasurer's report, motions of which one month's notice shall have been given to the Secretaries, and papers approved by the Council.

20. Monthly meetings shall also be held in London, at some fixed time and place, of which notice shall be given to all subscribing members; but the Council shall have power to suspend the meetings during July, August, and September. The Council shall have authority to engage rooms for the monthly meetings, and for the formation of a museum of library appliances, and ultimately of a bibliographical library.

21. The monthly meetings shall receive and consider papers and suggestions on all subjects relating to the aims of the Association;

shall examine all library appliances and designs submitted to them, and shall lay their conclusions and recommendations before the Council. They shall further have power to appoint special committees for the investigation of any particular subject; and the reports of such committees shall be submitted to the Council.

22. On receipt of a requisition from any five members of the Council, or any fifteen subscribing members, the President shall convene, within one calendar month, a special general meeting, provided that the purpose for which the meeting is required be stated in the requisition, and also in the summons issued by the President.

23. No action shall be taken by the Council upon any question specially affecting the provincial libraries without first submitting such question to the librarians who are members of the Association, and getting their opinion in writing or otherwise.

24. In any district containing six members of the Association, a Local Committee may be formed, with a Corresponding Secretary. Resolutions and recommendations forwarded by Local Committees to the Secretaries of the Association shall be laid before its next monthly meeting.

VI. Conduct of Business.

25. All elections of honorary members shall be conducted by ballot, the candidates being balloted for together. If there be fewer than one black ball in four, all the candidates shall be declared elected; otherwise they shall be balloted for separately, when one black ball in four shall exclude.

26. The election of officers shall be conducted by ballot upon a list, which shall include all nominations handed to the Secretaries before noon on the day preceding the day of election. Each nomination must be assented to in writing by at least three members of the Association.

27. On the demand of four subscribing members, any motion shall be decided by ballot.

28. The Chairman of any meeting shall have the right of voting, and if the votes be equal shall have a casting vote.

29. Honorary members shall not have the right of voting.

VII. Laws.

30. The Council may initiate any bye-law not inconsistent with this Constitution; such bye-law shall be proposed to the next monthly meeting, and if passed shall have immediate effect.

31. Amendments to this Constitution may be moved by the Council at an annual or special general meeting, notice of the proposed amendment being given on the summons of such meeting. Any individual member may also propose such an amendment at an annual or special general meeting, by giving one calendar month's notice to the Secretaries. But no amendment shall have effect unless it be passed by the votes of two-thirds of the subscribing members present and voting.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

Catalogue of the Anderson Free Library, Woodside. Compiled by A. W. Robertson, M.A. Aberdeen, 1881. 8vo, pp. xvi., 262.

A dictionary catalogue of a library of upwards of 5,000 volumes of general literature. Authors, titles, and subjects are entered in one alphabet; the contents of volumes and the chief contents of periodicals are set out. Reference is facilitated by printing the initial word of each entry in large Clarendon type; where no size or place of publication is given, the one is octavo and the other London. The books are classified according to a modification of Mr. Dewey's system, and the class number is prefixed to each entry.

Liverpool. Annual Supplementary Catalogue of the Liverpool Library, with the Laws and Report. Liverpool, 1881. 8vo, pp. 70.

Contains laws, list of proprietors, and short-title catalogue of additions, authors, titles, and subjects, in one alphabet. Folio and 4to are the only sizes noted. Place of publication is omitted in case of London. The report (dated May 24, 1881) shows that the library was open during the past year 307 days, during which period 62,620 works were issued, being an average of 204 works or 520 volumes per day; 922 works or 1,464 volumes were purchased during the year.

Warrington Museum. Supplement to the Catalogue of the Lending Library. Second Edition. Warrington, 1881. 8vo, pp. 88.

A short-title dictionary catalogue of 2,330 volumes added to the lending department during the five years ending 31st Dec., 1880. Titles, authors, and subjects entered in one alphabet, authors' names and initial words of titles in Clarendon type, subjects in capitals, size and imprint not noted, class numbers given.

Institution of Mechanical Engineers' Library Catalogue, May, 1881. Subject Index of Papers in the Proceedings, 1847–80. London, 1881. 8vo, pp. 96 + 22.

Each book is entered under two headings: (*a*) the author's surname (*b*) the first significant word in its title. In the case of foreign works the book is entered under the first significant word both of its original title and its English equivalent. Titles are grouped as far as possible under the general subjects to which they relate; entries under other headings are cross-referenced to these. Works which do not fall into these groups are entered under the title and the author's name. A list of the (71) subjects is prefixed.

List of a Selection of Works relating to Electricity and Magnetism, exhibited by Latimer Clark, M.I.C.E., at the Exposition Internationale d'Électricité. Paris, 1881. 8vo, pp. 10.

A list of about seventy works, beginning with the Speculum Naturale of Vincentius Bellovacensis (1473), in which appear the first references to electricity, the properties of the magnetic needle, and guesses in anticipation of the electric telegraph.

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BIBLIOTHECA · BODLEIANA

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

THE next Monthly Meeting will be held at the London Institution, on Friday, December 2nd, 1881, at 8 p.m.

The Committee (of the whole Association) to prepare illustrations of the Cataloguing Rules will meet on the third Friday of every month, at 7 p.m. The next meeting will take place at the London Institution, on Friday, the 18th instant.

NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING.

THE second Monthly Meeting of the fifth year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Friday, November 4th, 1881, at 8 p.m., Mr. CORNELIUS WALFORD, Vice-President, in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. C. W. H. Wyman, Mr. C. W. Holgate, Mr. R. W. Hobbes and Mr. W. Andrews, who were proposed for election at the last meeting, were unanimously elected.

Some discussion took place as to the arrangements for the meetings of committees during the coming year, and it was resolved that the Secretaries be requested to report at each Monthly Meeting the Meetings of Committees held during the past month. An appeal was made by the Secretary to the members for the offer of papers to be read at future meetings.

There being no other business the meeting adjourned.

LIBRARY NOTES.

BIRMINGHAM FREE LIBRARIES.—The Nineteenth Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Libraries (Mr. J. D. Mullins, Librarian) states that the reconstruction of the Library buildings is making satisfactory progress, and that the architects are of opinion that both the Lending and Reference Libraries will be ready, if not at the end of the present year, certainly early in 1882. By the time the buildings are completed it is anticipated that there will be 50,000 volumes to be placed on the shelves of the

Reference Library, or as many as there were when the previous Reference Library was destroyed. The aggregate issues for 1880 were 640,845 volumes.

BIRMINGHAM LIBRARY.—A new catalogue of the Birmingham Library, compiled by Mr. Scarse, Librarian, is now in the press. It gives references to all the articles in the *Revue des deux Mondes* relating to England, and all the criticisms on English writers. Mr. Scarse has also issued a rough list of Birmingham books and pamphlets, in the hope of obtaining, by gift or purchase, other local books and pamphlets not already in the library. A complete list will be published at the end of the catalogue, and will form the foundation of a bibliography of Birmingham.

DUMBARTON.—The Free Libraries Acts have lately been adopted in Dumbarton by a considerable majority; the movement was led by Councillor Robertson, of that town.

MUSEUM OF PRACTICAL GEOLOGY.—There is a rumour afloat that the well-known library of the Museum of Practical Geology in Jermyn Street is likely to be dismembered. The Science and Art Department has ordered the removal of the Jermyn Street library to South Kensington; but as the officers at Jermyn Street require a library too, it is proposed to leave a large number of the books for their use. This partition of the library is greatly to be deplored, and it is to be hoped that the library may be left where it is. To detach any considerable portion of the books, and thus destroy the unity of the library, would be lamented by all to whom this valuable collection is known. A catalogue of the library, of over 600 printed pages, compiled jointly by Mr. Henry White, of the library of the Royal Society, and Mr. Thomas W. Newton, the assistant librarian of the Jermyn Street institution, was published in 1878, and issued at the public cost, and copies liberally distributed to libraries and centres of education, both in this country and on the Continent, as well as in America, India, &c. The collection has thus become widely known to scientific persons in all parts of the world. The Jermyn Street library has taken 38 years to arrive at its present state of efficiency. A notice of the library, written by Mr. Newton, and published in the *Library Journal* for December, 1879, states that it was founded in 1843, and from its foundation has constantly received donations of the most important scientific works issued by learned societies and national geological surveys, both at home and abroad, and specially important donations have been received from America. Many works have been acquired by exchanging the catalogues of the museum, or the maps and memoirs of the Geological Survey, for foreign scientific publications. Purchases of books are made by annual parliamentary grant. The library has rapidly increased, until at the present time it numbers nearly 30,000 books. The works are almost entirely confined to biology, geology, chemistry, physics, mechanics, mining, metallurgy, and mineralogy. It contains many treatises relating to early science, and is especially rich in geology and metallurgy. In addition to separate treatises on the various branches of science, the

works chiefly consulted are transactions of learned societies, scientific serial publications, and reports of geological surveys.

OLDHAM.—At the competition for designs for the New Free Library, twenty-seven sets were submitted. The first premium, £100, has been awarded to Mr. Thomas Mitchell, of Manchester and Oldham, whose design bore the motto "F. S. A.," and the second premium, £50, to Messrs. Wright and Rawcliffe, of Burnley, who submitted the designs under the motto "Practical."

OXFORD.—On the 28th October last, Professor Max Müller was elected a curator of the Bodleian Library, in the place of the late Professor Rolleston.

The election to the Bodleian Librarianship, value £1,000 per annum, vacant by the death of the Rev. H. O. Coxe, will not, it is expected, take place until the end of the month. The following, it is understood, are candidates:—The Rev. W. D. Macray, Rector of Ducklington, Oxon, at present and for many years engaged in the library, and formerly Chaplain of New College and Magdalen; the Rev. E. Hatch, Vice-Principal of St. Mary Hall; the Rev. E. S. Foulkes, Vicar of St. Mary's, and formerly Fellow of Jesus College; the Rev. C. H. O. Daniel, Fellow and Bursar of Worcester College; Dr. Neubauer, Sub-Librarian; and Mr. E. J. L. Scott, of the British Museum, formerly Scholar of Lincoln College. The Rev. G. W. Kitchin, Christ Church, Censor of Unattached Students, &c., and Mr. Ingram Bywater, Fellow, &c., of Exeter College, formerly of the library, whose names were amongst the earliest announced, are not, we learn, candidates.

It will be of some interest to students of ancient coins to learn that within the last fortnight Mr. Vaux's MS. catalogue of the coins in the library has been finished, bound, and made accessible to the public. The number of coins catalogued is about 8,000, including Greek, Roman, English, and Oriental specimens. There is none which can claim to be unique, and few which are rare, but as a typical collection for exhibition it is admirable. On the whole, perhaps, it is strongest in Roman imperial coins.

The following letter from Mr. Edward Marshall, dated October 26th, has appeared in the *Oxford and Cambridge Undergraduate's Journal*:—"I should like, with your permission, *sede vacante*, to make some remarks upon the necessity for a re-arrangement of the books in the general reading-room at the Bodleian Library, in the interest of readers. . . . .

"The great advantage in frequenting Bodley, besides the use of the valuable books which are accessible, is the facility of obtaining the books which are not in the reading-room, through the quickness and excellence of service on the part of the officers. There is less waiting than at the British Museum, generally, or the Public Record Office.

"But there is a disadvantage to readers, except to the *privileged* few who have a table or a cell to themselves, as compared with the

attention to their comfort observable in the arrangements at the British Museum. If it is acknowledged that there is sufficient accommodation for the small number present at any given time together, I should venture to reply that there might be in this a confusion between cause and effect. . . . .

"The reading-room itself is not equal, in respect of the books accessible to readers, to modern requirements as evidenced in the similar room at the British Museum. Making every allowance for the different class of readers at Oxford and at London, and taking into account the additions which have been made to the available books in the Selden division, there is a great want of the necessary books of reference; while there are more copies of some works than is requisite, their reduplication taking up most valuable space. There are seven copies of St. Augustine, and five of St. Jerome, for example. There are two folio editions of the Byzantine Historians; but the edition by Niebuhr, the one in common use now, is not there. So also the modern edition of the collected Medici Græci is absent; while there are only the old editions of the Greek Physicians. In Canon Law, there is no Van Espen, nor Boehmer, nor Richter; nor is there Phillimore's, nor Stephen's Ecclesiastical Law. In General English Law, there is no modern book, not even Stephen's Commentaries, nor Stubbs, nor Taswell-Langmead on Constitutional Law. In English Literature, there is no edition of the English Poets, nor of the Essayists; nor is there the late edition of Jeremy Taylor, nor of Jewel. There are only the earlier ones. There is no modern historian, I think, of any sort. There is certainly a collection of the publications in the Rolls series, and of the Record Commission. But these are much more conveniently arranged for reference in the Codrington Library; to which also readers must have recourse for the facility of using any set of books on English Law.

"I am aware of the Camera, as in some part supplemental to Bodley; but the books which I have mentioned are not, for the most part, accessible on its shelves. I will mention, however, one addition lately made in this room, which offers much convenience. There is a single case, the Teubnerian Classical collection, bound and arranged alphabetically, so that excellent editions of such as it contains of the classics, or other writers, can be consulted at once.

"I would venture to suggest, that in spite of the labour and expense—which, however, a good administrator would soon discover to be not so insuperable as has been anticipated—a new arrangement of the reading-room should be taken in hand without much longer waiting. . . . . It would be, if effected, an advantage both to readers and officers; the antiquary might consult his Gough's "Sepulchral Monuments" as often as he pleased, without having to think of the trouble of having such a work brought down stairs for his reference. And so of many others.

"If it were thought necessary to preserve the Selden collection intact, about the possession of which, originally, there is some

obscurity, it might be preserved as it is; or rather, let me say, with some better distinguishing marks than it now has. For I question whether any common readers at all know which are his books and which are not. But if the space should be exhausted, as doubtless it would be, some of the less useful books might be removed, and a catalogue of them placed in a conspicuous position, to preserve tho honour of the first possessor, even if he is the questionable donor. The present reading-room would then have a more comfortable arrangement, as well as a more scientific and literary classification; while the supplemental rooms might contain the books in proper classes, so arranged that those who desire to consult them might do so *in situ*, under proper instructions, and under due supervision."

SOUTHWARK.—A branch of the South London Free Library was opened on Tuesday, the 1st instant, at the Horns Institute, Bermondsey Square, by Prof. Rogers, M.P. In his opening address he said that he could not help feeling that London, which had the most intelligent, competent, and best paid artisans in the kingdom, was very badly off for literary resources for their benefit. In the city of Oxford they had a public library, maintained at a very trivial charge; and though there was much opposition to the scheme at first, the rate was so small that it was never objected to now. He was well aware that in London local taxation pressed very severely, and as he contended, unjustly, on the occupiers of houses, and it was not surprising that any new rate should be looked upon with alarm, especially when one considered the enormous rents that were being paid by even the working classes, in order to keep their homes anything like habitable; but he trusted the time was not far distant when the funds which had been left to improve artisans, would be devoted to working men all over the Metropolis. Nothing would be more just, or equitable, than to provide places where they could be improved to the highest possible level. In America every large town had its free schools, and its free public library, supported out of the local rates. The consequence was that an uneducated American, of the second generation, was hardly ever met with. The artisans were all great readers, especially of English literature and their own newspapers. They were able to discuss fairly every topic raised, and such a thing as a disturbance at a public meeting was unknown. All such attempts were put down by the general good sense of those present. The English were divided into factions because they did not understand each other, and he hoped much from habits of reading and study to remedy this. He considered there never was a baser calumny expressed than the stock phrase, that education puts a man above his work. The speaker then showed how the employers were the better for the skill of educated workmen, and concluded his address by describing what philosophers and authors had done for mankind, dwelling upon the influence produced on men's minds and character by reading and study.

WANDSWORTH.—At the Monthly Meeting of the Elected Vestry of Wandsworth, on the 27th ult., it was moved by Dr. J. H. HOOPER, the Vicar's Churchwarden, and seconded, in a forcible speech, by Mr. W. J. GILKS, Solicitor, and resolved:—"That a Committee of three (consisting of Dr. Hooper, Mr. Gilks, and Dr. G. B. Longstaff,) be appointed to inquire into the working of the Public Libraries Act in similar districts to Wandsworth, and to report as to the desirability of adopting it for this parish, and also how far the Vestry building would be available for such a Library." The resolution was adopted in a full Meeting (about 40 being present), Mr. Bell only remarking (1) that a resolution "to enquire" did not commit the Vestry to the adoption of the Act, and (2) that the large sum spent on the Vestry Hall was in itself a difficulty in the way of spending money for any other object, however laudable.

YORK.—A very large and influential meeting was held at the Festival Concert Room, on the 18th of last month, to consider the desirability of establishing a Free Library and Reading Room. The Archbishop of York presided, and the Lord Mayor of York (Mr. Ald. J. S. Rowntree) delivered an address in which he gave an account of the provisions of the Free Libraries Acts and of the towns which had adopted them, and also showed the advantages which had resulted from their adoption. He specially mentioned the advantage of ready access to public reports, such as parliamentary papers, patent specifications, &c., which could only be stored in a public library. While impartially laying before the meeting the advantages of adopting the Acts, he did not disguise the difficulties and expense, but, at the same time, expressed his own opinion that the advantages far outweighed the difficulties. A resolution was unanimously carried affirming the desirability of establishing a Free Library and Reading Room for the city of York, and several promises of Books were announced in case such a library should be founded.

On the 3rd instant a public meeting was convened by the Lord Mayor in response to a requisition of ratepayers, and a resolution to adopt the Acts was carried by a large majority. A poll was demanded, the result of which has not yet been declared.

A Correspondent of *Notes and Queries*, asking for information as to Libraries in which books yet remain chained to their presses, states that such books are still to be found in the libraries of Denchworth, Berks; Wimborne Minster; Hereford Cathedral; and All Saints' Church, Hereford.

A private Act of Parliament, passed in the session of 1880, was required to enable the Duke of Marlborough to break the settlement of the Blenheim estates, so far as regards the sale of the Sunderland Library. The sale of the first portion is announced by Messrs. Puttick and Simpson to take place on the First of December and nine following days.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

BROWNING.—The Browning Society has published Part I. of its papers. Mr. Furnivall has completed a bibliography of Browning —in which he has been aided by the poet himself—in alphabetical and chronological order.

CAMOENS.—Capt. R. F. Burton's work, "Camoens, his Life and his Lusiads," lately published in two volumes by Mr. Quaritch, contains a life of the poet, a commentary on the Lusiads, and an exhaustive bibliography of all Camoens' literature.

DANTE.—Herr Julius Petzholdt has in preparation a Catalogue of the large mass of Dante literature, accumulated by King John (Philalethes), of Saxony, which will be published by the firm of Teubner, of Strasburg.

ELECTRICITY.—An important special bibliography has been issued by the Italian Government in the form of a Catalogue of Italian works on Electricity and Magnetism, compiled by F. Rossetti and G. Cantoni — Bibliografia Italiana di Elettricità e Magnetismo, saggio compilato per incarico del Ministero di Agricoltura, Industria e Commercio. Padova, 1881, 4to, pp. 117.

FAUST.—The *Literary World* of Boston has published a bibliography of English versions of *Faust*. This list contains forty-five different translations.

PETER THE GREAT.—The commission at St. Petersburg appointed to conduct the publication of the letters and papers of Peter the Great, announces that it hopes to begin the work of printing before the close of the present year. It is known that some of his letters are in private hands, though their precise whereabouts has not been ascertained. All persons, therefore, who possess any documents, written or signed by him, are requested to forward them to the commission, which guarantees on its part, their safe return, and also, by way of thanks, a copy of their forthcoming publication.

SHORTHAND.—At the first meeting of the Shorthand Society of London, held on the 1st inst., Mr. C. WALFORD delivered an address, in which he referred to the literature of the subject, and mentioned that Mr. Westby Gibson had compiled a Key to the Literature of Shorthand, comprising over 2,000 distinct works, on all systems of shorthand. Mr. Westby Gibson has become editor, jointly with Mr. A. L. Lewis, of the quarterly periodical *Shorthand*, the organ of the Society.

The portion of the library of Colonel F. Grant, which will be sold by Messrs. Puttick and Simpson on the 16th inst., comprises, in a great part, early editions of scarce pieces by, and relating to, Johnson, Pope, and Swift, and a large series of Curll's publications. The value of the collection, and the scarcity of many of the works it contains, will give a considerable bibliographical value to the Sale Catalogue.

ANCIENT LIBRARIANS.

SIR,—The following Roman inscriptions may have an interest for your readers. The first one relates to the Octavian Library, founded by Augustus, B.C. 33, and named after his sister Octavia. The Greek and Latin Libraries (or Library) mentioned in the other four were founded by the same emperor five years later in the temple of Apollo, on the Palatine Hill.

D . M . S
SOTERICHI . PVBLICI
VESTRICIANI . A
BVBLIOTHECE . PORTICVS
OCTAVIAE
STATILIA . HELPIS
CONIVGI . B . M . F . V . A . XXVIII .

"Sacred to the Divine Manes of Soterichus Publicus Vestricianus of the library of the Porticus Octavia. Statilia Helpis erected this to her well-deserving husband. He lived twenty-eight years."

C . IVLIVS . C . L . PHRONIMVS
A . BIBLIOTHECA . GRAECA .

"Caius Julius Phronimus (freedman of Caius) of the Greek Library."

DIS . MANIBVS
T . FLAVIVS . A . BIBLIOT .
GRAEC . PAL .

"To the Deified Spirits. [Here lies] Titus Flavius of the Palatine Greek Library."

DIS . MANIBVS . LAELIAE . [CONIVGI]
CARISSIMAE . FEC . LIBERALIS . . . .
LATINA . APOLLINIS . ET . SIBI . ET . SVIS . . . .

"To the Deified Manes of his dearest wife Laelia, Liberalis . . . . of the Apollo Latin Library, has made this; also for himself and his."

ALEXANDER . C . CAE
SARIS . AVG . GERMANICI . SER .
PYLAEMENIANVS . AB . BYBLI
OTHECE . GRAECA . TEMPLI . APOLL
INIS . VIX . ANN . XXX .

"Alexander Pylæmenianus (slave of Caius Cæsar Augustus Germanicus), of the Greek Library of the Temple of Apollo. He lived thirty years."

It is singular that these well-known libraries are not recorded in the list given in Haydn's Dictionary of Dates (14th Edition, 1873).

I am, &c.,

7 *November*, 1881. JOHN W. BONE, F.S.A.

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BIBLIOTHECA · BODLEIANA

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

THE next Monthly Meeting of the Association will be held at the London Institution, Finsbury Circus, on Friday, January 6th, 1882, when a paper will be read by Mr. J. Ballinger, Librarian of the Doncaster Free Library, entitled "Jottings from my Note-book."

It has been decided to print the Transactions of the last Annual Meeting in the same manner as those of former years.

Members who have not received copies of the Report of the London Conference and of the Oxford and Manchester Meetings, may obtain them, at the price of 14*s.* each volume, on application to the Chiswick Press. The notice as to these volumes on p. 24, is cancelled.

The arrangements under which MONTHLY NOTES have hitherto been edited and published will end with the publication of the present number. At their last meeting the Council resolved "That a vote of thanks be given to Mr. Brace for the care and conscientiousness displayed in his editing MONTHLY NOTES during the last two years."

The Council expected to have been able to announce the details of a new plan for continuing the publication on a larger scale. The Journal Committee has made its report, but the arrangements are not fully complete; and although it is hoped that a satisfactory result will be arrived at, the Council are not yet in a position to definitely announce the particulars.

The Report of the Committee, as agreed to by the Council, is as follows:—

REPORT OF A COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL ON THE QUESTION OF A JOURNAL FOR THE ASSOCIATION.

YOUR Committee, consisting of Messrs. Walford, Nicholson, H. Stevens, Tedder, Briscoe, Garnett, Mullins, Whitaker, and the Secretaries, was appointed "to consider and report at an early

date, on the best mode of publishing the proceedings of the Monthly Meetings."

The first duty of the Committee was to make themselves fully acquainted with the various stages through which the question of a new Journal has passed since the idea was first taken into consideration by a sub-committee, appointed at a Monthly Meeting of the Association in April, 1879.

That Committee prepared a specimen of a proposed Monthly Circular for distribution at the Manchester Meeting (in 1879), and it was resolved at that Meeting "that this Association approves the idea of a Monthly or Quarterly Journal being issued, and that it be referred to the Council to carry the proposition into effect, if possible."

The Council carried out these instructions by arranging with Messrs. Trübner & Co. for the publication of an Eight-page Circular, which has been printed and sent post free to our members every month since January 1880, without any cost to the Association, except the Editor's honorarium and extra corrections, together about £25 per annum. Mr. Brace was appointed Editor, with an Editorial Committee.

About the middle of the year 1880, the *Library Journal*, which continued (as it still continues) to be our "Official Organ," announced that it would be discontinued from the end of that year. The position of the *Library Journal* towards the Association, it may be well to recall, was—as to its finance and management—one of complete independence. Neither our own nor the American Association had any pecuniary responsibility, and the control was entirely in the hands of the publisher. So far as our own Association is concerned, there has always been, of course, the serious disadvantage of a transatlantic publication. In view of this disadvantage, as well as of the uncertain future of the *Library Journal*, the Council reported to the Edinburgh Meeting of that year that "although the Council readily recognize the indebtedness of English librarians to the conductors of the *Library Journal* for the ability and public spirit with which it has been carried on so long, the whole question of the form and conduct of an official organ for this Association may be regarded as remaining open for full consideration at Edinburgh."

The challenge of the Council failed to evoke any definite expression of opinion, but Mr. Bowker was invited by a resolution of the Edinburgh Meeting to confer with the Council. The later history of the question may be quoted from the Report of the Council to the London Meeting of last September.

"Mr. Bowker accordingly gave the Council the benefit of his advice and experience. He also informed them that the publisher of the Journal had finally decided to alter its form and continue the publication. Under these circumstances, an offer which had been made to the Council by one of the Secretaries, to undertake the publication of an official organ in England, which should hold the same relation to the Association as the American Journal had held to the English and American Associations, was not accepted. But, although the matter has remained in abeyance, it must not be

considered as finally dropped. The Council are quite sensible of the disadvantage of having an official organ appearing on the other side of the Atlantic. They can only repeat, therefore, what they said in their report last year, that 'the whole question of the form and conduct of an official organ for this Association may be regarded as remaining open.'"

The proposal, though not accepted, had not been rejected by the Council, but remained under consideration, and as lately as the October Council Meeting of this year, a resolution was carried "that it is very desirable that an independent Library Journal be issued in this country, monthly."

For this the time may not yet be ripe, and under the circumstances the course which your Committee think it best to recommend for the coming year, is as follows:—

1. That *Monthly Notes* be increased to sixteen pages and wrapper; that it be brought out in better style; and that Messrs. Trübner & Co. be requested to continue its publication on the same terms as before, except that the Council agree to pay half the cost for printing (including corrections), provided that the annual sum to be contributed by the Association shall not exceed £25.

2. That an Honorary Editor (or Editors) be appointed, who shall exercise his discretion as to the contents, but who shall insert reports of all meetings of the Association, and such official information as may be sent for the purpose by the Secretaries.

3. That Advertisements be accepted for insertion on three pages of the cover, and if sufficiently numerous, on additional Advertising pages, and that a scale of charges and an arrangement for the division of the proceeds be settled with Messrs. Trübner.

4. That, in the arrangement with Messrs. Trübner, the copyright of the *Monthly Notes* be reserved to the Association.

The Committee recommend that their Report should be printed for the information of the Association.

DECEMBER MONTHLY MEETING.

THE third Monthly Meeting of the fifth year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Friday, December 2nd, at 8 p.m., Mr. R. HARRISON, Treasurer, in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Chairman announced that the Association had lost one of its members by the death of Mr. H. J. Adams, of Fleet Street.

The following gentlemen were announced as having joined the Association. By the TREASURER:—Sir James Ramsden, Member of Free Library Committee, Barrow-in-Furness. By the Rev. S. S. LEWIS, Local Secretary for Cambridge:—Rev. John Batteridge Pearson, D.D., Senior Fellow and Librarian of Emmanuel College, Cambridge. By Mr. C. WELCH, Secretary:—Mr. A. Mynott, Librarian of the Oxford and Cambridge Club.

The Secretaries reported that the following Committee Meetings had been held since the last Monthly Meeting:—Cataloguing Rules, Second Meeting, 18th November; Size Notation, Second Meeting,

18th November; Journal, First Meeting, 18th November, Second Meeting, 25th November.

There being no further business, the Meeting adjourned.

LOCAL SECRETARY.

Mr. J. Ballinger has been appointed by the Council to be Local Secretary for Doncaster.

LIBRARY NOTES.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—A Committee has been formed to establish a Free Library under the Acts.

DUBLIN—KING'S INNS LIBRARY.—The office of Librarian being vacant, Candidates are invited to send in their applications to the Under Treasurer of the King's Inns, on or before the 1st day of January, 1882. The salary is £200 per annum, with apartments and allowances, the precise particulars of which can be ascertained from the Under Treasurer.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES—FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.—Shortly after the notice as to this Library appeared in our July number (p. 60), the Library Committee had reason to alter their plans, and the applications received were put aside. They have now decided to return to their original plan, and have engaged temporary premises, which they hope to be in a position to open very early next year. The income from the rate will only amount to £320, but a donation has just been received of £500 for the purchase of books. The Reading Room will be opened from 10 a.m. till 10 p.m. Applications, stating salary required, may be sent to the Rev. J. M. GORDON, 5, Ceres Villas, Kingston-on-Thames.

RICHMOND FREE LIBRARY.—A careful enumeration of the number of readers at each hour of the day, was made on the 12th ult. The number of persons passing into the Library was 1,013, or about one in twenty of the entire population of Richmond. At 8.15 p.m. there were sixty persons present, and at 8.55 there were forty-six. On the same day 553 volumes were taken out for home reading by 530 borrowers.

YORK.—The result of the poll on the Free Library question was declared on Thursday, 17th November; the number of votes against the adoption of the Free Libraries' Act was 4,939; in favour of its adoption, 3,044, being a majority of 1,895 against the adoption of the Act. The number of voting papers sent out was 10,887; number of papers returned, 9,209; there were 1,177 unsigned, 49 insufficiently filled up, and 452 not returned.

ERRATUM.—Page 96, line 26, for [CONIVGI] read [CONIVGIS].

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